

The Mining Journal

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE:

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

No. 1227.—VOL. XXIX.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1859.

WITH (SUPPLEMENT) { STAMPED.....SIXPENCE.
UNSTAMPED..FIVEPENCE.

MR. JAMES CROFTS, SHAREBROKER,
No. 1, FINCH LANE, CORNHILL (established 15 years), having resolved to extend his business, begs to intimate that he BUYS and SELLS every description of BRITISH and FOREIGN STOCKS and SHARES, RAILWAYS, DOCKS, CANALS, and other securities, particularly BRITISH MINING SHARES, in which dividends are paid realising 15 to 20 per cent. per annum, with perfect freedom from any kind of risk; whilst speculative (or progressive) shares frequently yield large and immediate profits, it will be bought. Advice given to capitalists by letter, or personally.

Mr. Crofts refers the reader of the Journal to his weekly review of the market, on page 136. The present moment presents special opportunities for investments on a large scale.

Office hours, Ten to Five.

* A List of Forty British Mines now in full payment of dividends, and giving an average of 14 per cent. per annum, may be had of Mr. Crofts on application, and also a prospectus of Wheal Unity Consols.—No. 1, Finch-lane, Cornhill, London, E.C.

MR. JAMES LANE, NO. 29, THREADNEEDLE STREET,
MINING SHARE DEALER.

JAMES B. BRENCHEY, of 19, TOKENHOUSE YARD,
LOTHBURY, has FOR SALE, at nett prices:—
1 Bassett, £17½.
100 Catherine & Jane, 5s. 3d.
20 Drake Walls, 29s. 6d.
50 Great Wheal Vor.
25 Grenville.
5 Kitty (Levant), £11½.
25 Wheal Unity Consols.
100 Hindon Down, £4½.
BRENCHEY is also a buyer for cash, on delivery of transfer, of most of the mining mentioned in this Journal.

Bankers: London and Westminster.

M. LELEAN, 4, CUSHION COURT, OLD BROAD STREET,
E.C., has the following SHARES FOR SALE, and recommends those marked thus (*) as paying the greatest dividends, and those marked (**) for a rise in market value in a very short time:—

5 Alfred Consols.
1 Botallack.
1 Bell and Lanarth.
20 Buller and Bertha.
100 Buller and Bassett.
100 Bryntail.
5 Calstock Consols.
25 Catherine and Jane.
25 Carn Brea.
11 Carymoor.
25 Dale (£1 paid).
1 Dolcoath.
15 Ding Dong.
20 Drake Walls.
2 East Daren.
20 East Providence.
20 East Bassett.
10 East Russell.
15 East Trefus.
10 East Rosewarne.
20 Great Alfred.
20 Grambler and St. Aub.
100 Great Wheal Vor.
100 Great Hudas.
50 Great Caradon.
All orders promptly attended to. Commission, 1½ per cent.

DIVIDEND MINES, well selected, are the BEST of all PUBLIC INVESTMENTS, paying, as they do (in dividends every two or three months), from 20 to 30 per cent. per annum. NON-DIVIDEND MINES, carefully chosen, frequently advance in price 500 per cent., or more.

PETER WATSON, having 14 years' experience in every department of mining and its management, together with an extensive and regular correspondence with mining agents and others in Cornwall, Devon, and elsewhere, is enabled to judge of and select mines of intrinsic value.

A SPECIAL REPORT (WEEKLY) WILL APPEAR IN PETER WATSON'S "MINING CIRCULAR," by his own Agents. ABRIDGED REPORTS will also be given, and important information on the present and future operations and prospects of mines throughout Cornwall and Devon, with advice thereon as to purchase or sale of shares.

Those who desire to have copies regularly sent them will be supplied for an annual subscription of £1 1s. or 6d. per copy.

English and Foreign Stock, Share, and Mining Offices,
3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

HINGSTON DOWN.—A SPECIAL REPORT published in PETER WATSON'S WEEKLY MINING CIRCULAR yesterday.

WHEAL GRYLLS AND TINCROFT SPECIAL REPORT will be published in PETER WATSON'S WEEKLY CIRCULAR next week.

HENRY GOULD SHARP, 32, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.,
BUYS and SELLS SHARES of every marketable description.

SHARES FOR SALE:—
10 Wh. Kitty (Levant).
90 Cholocott.
100 Lady Bertha.
50 Great Caradon & Slade Consols (Limited).
SHARES WANTED:—
2 Whel. Margaret.
3 North Roskear.

Shareholders wishing to sell must name the lowest prices.

FIFTEEN to TWENTY, and even TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. PER ANNUM upon current value of shares, in CORNISH TIN and COPPER MINES.

Dividends payable two-monthly or quarterly.

M. R. TREDINICK, MINING ENGINEER, SENDS his SELECTED LIST of SOUND PROGRESSIVE and DIVIDEND SHARES upon the receipt of a Fee of One Guinea.

Review of Cornish and Devon Mining Enterprise, 5s. per copy.

Maps per post of the Buller and Bassett, Great Vor, Alfred Consols, the Providence and Margaret, South Caradon, and the Devon Great Consols Districts, 2s. 6d. each.

Cornish Mines, well selected, pay better than any other description of securities, are safe, and entail less responsibility than banks and other joint-stock companies.

They are bought and sold on commission of 2½ per cent.

Advances at 10 per cent. annually, for short or long periods, upon approved Miners.—4, Austinfriars, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

MONEY MARKET.—BRITISH and FOREIGN FUNDS, BANKS, INSURANCE, MINING and RAILWAY SHAREHOLDERS, are respectfully informed that EVERY DESCRIPTION of STOCK and SHARES continue to be BOUGHT and SOLD, either for cash or on account, at the market price of the day, through the medium of the Stock Exchange, by Messrs. FULLER AND CO., No. 51, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, who have enlarged their premises, thereby affording every facility for giving the hourly current price of stocks, &c. Country communications have brought attention, and every information given to parties seeking investments. British mining shares range from 12½ to 20 per cent. Others of a progressive character, frequently advance in price from 50 to 100 per cent. upon the outlay. The present period offers to capitalists an opportunity which cannot fail to remunerate all who invest.

Office hours, from Ten till Five o'clock daily.

Bankers: Sir J. W. Lubbock, Bart., Foster, and Co.

NOTICE.—MINING OFFICES, CORN EXCHANGE, LEEDS.

JOHN GLEDHILL AND CO.'S MINING OFFICES are REMOVED from 12, South Parade, to the CORN EXCHANGE. They beg to inform those who have money to invest that they have SEVERAL VALUABLE LEAD and COPPER MINING SETTS on hand, which they have personally inspected, and can fully recommend. Some of these setts are situated in Yorkshire, Cumberland, Northumberland, and Scotland. Arrangements can be made to work them either by private enterprise or as public companies, under the Joint-Stock Companies Act (Limited), 1856. J. GLEDHILL and Co. will be glad to afford full information to bona fide parties respecting any of the above setts, and to assist in forming and establishing companies to work them, if after investigation it is thought desirable. They have also SHARES FOR SALE in many of the PROGRESSIVE and DIVIDEND MINES.

M. GEORGE BUDGE, 4, ROYAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS, LONDON, has SHARES FOR SALE at the following prices:—2 Margaret, £110, ex div.; 2 Rosewarne, £66; 10 Trelyon, £12½; 1 East Bassett, £27½; 25 Pendown, £55; 15 Wheal Grylls, £7; 50 Caradon Wheal Hooper, 1s.; 10 East Trefus, £45; 50 West Par, 27s.; 100 Catherine and Jane, 5s. 9d.; 5 North Roskear, £23; 10 East Russell, £20½; 20 Hindon Down, £4½; 50 Holmboe, 2s.; 6d.; 100 Tamar Consols, 2s.; 10 Calvadnock, £7½; 50 Crebior, 1s.; 50 Drake Walls, 2s.; 5 Ding Dong, £1½; 20 Wheal Kitty (St. Agnes), £4; 50 Boiling Well, 10 Leant Consols; 50 New Treleigh, £1; 15 Trevoe, £15; 50 Wheal Grenville, £2½; 20 Ludcott; 50 Wheal Trelawny, 2s.; 2 East Togus; 50 Kelly Bray, £2½; 50 Lady Bertha, 1s. 9d.

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G E O R G E M O O R E,
1, CROWN COURT, THREADNEEDLE STREET.

GEORGE MOORE will sell shares for time, at a slight advance in price, to any one possessing a name of commercial value.

PURCHASES of undoubted remunerability can register transfers and receive CERTIFICATES of same previous to PAYMENT.

In any business that George Moore is favoured with, in which he is the buyer, he will be paid CASH ON RECEIPT OF TRANSFER.

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JAMES HERON has FOR SALE the following SHARES, at the prices quoted, and FREE OF COMMISSION:—

10 Bryntail, 2s.
25 Butler and Bassett.
20 Boiling Well, 1s. 6d.
5 Corn Brea, £7½.
50 Clara.
1 Cwmystwith.
20 Cobre, £39½.
20 Cather & Jane, 5s. 6d.
3 Ding Dong.
50 Donham Bridge, 3s.
1 Dev. Gl. Cons., £47½.
20 E. Gunnis Lake, 25s. 9d.
20 East Rosewarne, 9s. 6d.
1 East Daren, £110.
1 East Bassett, £217½.
1 Providence.
5 Kitty (Levant), £11½.
20 Rosewarne United.
20 Wheal Charlotte.
50 Wheal Crebior.
50 Wheal Tudor.
50 Vale of Towy, 1s. 9d.
50 West Par.

And a BUYER, seller paying commission, of 5 Miners, at £116; 10 North Roskear,

£31; 400 Tamar Consols, 3s.; 50 Holmboe, 2s.; 100 Trelawny, 2s.; 1 West Seton, 10 Manx; 3 Trelawny.—2, Adam's-court, Old Broad-street, February 25, 1859.

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MESSRS. VIVIAN AND REYNOLDS, MINE AGENTS,
68, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Messrs. Vivian and Reynolds are enabled, through the long experience of Mr. W. C. Vivian as an underground agent and manager of mines in Cornwall, and in various foreign countries, to afford information on most important mining districts; and to inspect and report on mines. They are also enabled, by the several years' acquaintance of Mr. J. J. Reynolds, jun., with the transactions of the London share market, to obtain every advantage for those who may want either to buy or sell mining or any other description of stock.

Messrs. Vivian and Reynolds have daily information from the principal seats of mining which is at the service of those who may honour them with their confidence.

M. C. POWELL, MINING SHAREBROKER,
2, SPREAD EAGLE COURT, FINCH LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Terms of commission and daily closing prices of shares in dividend and progressive mines furnished on application. Office hours from Ten to Six.

Bankers: City Bank, Finch-lane.

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M. EDWARD COOKE, 54, THREADNEEDLE STREET,
HERCULES PASSAGE, LONDON, TRANSACTS BUSINESS in BRITISH MINES, and ALL OTHER kinds of SECURITIES, on commission. All orders confined to his care will have prompt attention, and he has now FOR SALE:—

10 Par Consols, 10 Kelly Bray, 25 Wheal Unity.

20 Wheal Charlotte, 20 West Par.

50 St. Day United, 5 North Miners.

2 Rosewarne United.

BUYER of 10 Tolvadden, at £6½; and any number of North Grambler, at £3½.

Feb. 25, 1859. Bankers: Commercial Bank, Lothbury.

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T. HOMAS ROACH, MINING AGENT,
37, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

WILLIAM MICHELL continues to DEAL in all DIVIDEND

and sound PROGRESSIVE MINING SHARES. W. MICHELL having very recently inspected East Russell, is prepared to advise his friends; he has strenuously recommended this property since the price was only 5s. per share.—Apply to W. MICHELL, 3, Austinfriars, London.—Dated February 25, 1859.

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M. JOHN RISLEY, MINING SHAREBROKER,
JAMAICA COFFEE HOUSE, ST. MICHAEL'S ALLEY,
CORNHILL, LONDON.

N.B.—References required with buying and selling orders. Commission, 1½ per cent.

ROBERT OLDFREY, STOCK, SHARE, AND MINING BROKER,
8, FINCH LANE (adjoining the City Bank), LONDON, E.C.

Terms of commission for buying or selling shares in mines, railways, or banks, forwarded on application. Bankers: London Joint-Stock Bank.

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M. R. LINTHORNE, ENGLISH AND FOREIGN MINING AGENT,
3, ADAM'S COURT, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

N.B.—Business transacted in every description of stock and shares.

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M. J. T. KEVERN'S MINING, LOAN, AND DISCOUNT OFFICES,
ESTABLISHED 1845.

Bankers (from 1858)—Messrs. Batten, Carne, and Carne.

22

M. THOMAS SPARGO, MINING AGENT AND ENGINEER,
223 and 224, GRESHAM HOUSE, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

Business of every description transacted.

23

M. JOHN ANTHONY, MINING ENGINEER,
ESTIMATES AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR ALL KINDS OF MACHINERY PREPARED.

11, ARUNDEL CRESCENT, PLYMOUTH.

24

GODCHAP, TYLER, AND BROOKS,
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS, AND ARBITRATORS,
13, GRESHAM STREET, E.C. (corner of King-street).

The accounts of public companies and private firms audited and periodically balanced by contract. Partnerships and the transfer of businesses negotiated.

25

M. M. S. RICHARDS, BRITISH AND FOREIGN STOCK,
RAILWAY, AND MINING SHAREBROKER, No. 27, AUSTINFIARS, LONDON, E.C., has business to transact, either as a BUYER or SELLER, in the undermentioned stocks, for cash on delivery of transcript:—

1 East Bassett.

1 South Wheal Frances.

1 Providence.

25 Great Wheal.

1 Wheal Trelawny.

20 Kelly Bray.

20 North Robert.

50 Gwanton.

10 East Falmouth.

25 Wheal Sidney.

50 Tolvadden.

25 Tavy Consols.

10 East Trefus.

10 Devon Great Consols.

50 Pendeen Consols.

50 Vale of Towy.

50 Wheal Crebior.

50 Wheal Grenville.

50 Wheal Tudor.

50 Wheal Unity.

50 Wheal Tudor.

Original Correspondence.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MINER—No. II.

SIR.—Mr. Robert Stephenson, M.P., when speaking before the Institute of Mining Engineers in Newcastle-on-Tyne, in 1853, relative to the utility of a Mining College, observed—"The object of all such institutions should be to make practical men scientific to a certain extent. I do not mean that overmen and underwriters should be exclusively scientific men, but they should be conversant with the abstract principles of science, which they can with practical knowledge bring to bear, and they cannot be brought to bear without saving many human lives in a country like this. I think it the right end to begin at—to attempt to make practical men scientific, rather than as Government sometimes attempts, to make scientific men practical." I contend that in these remarks, made by one whom none perhaps was ever better able to judge in this matter, involve a means of preventing accidents in mines, and of improving mining economy, so thoroughly efficient and so evidently practicable that the Government and mine proprietors ought to lose no time in giving it that kind of attention which it most assuredly demands. We have heard much about compulsory education for the lower classes; if compulsory education is necessary to save a large portion of Her Majesty's subjects from the misfortune of a morally depraved and vicious education, it is surely more so to save that very useful portion of them to whom the nation is indebted for most of its wealth from fatal disease and sudden death. I assert most emphatically that the health and life of the miner depend on the thoroughly practical ability of the managers, but that there can be no such ability, or no proper qualification, apart from a knowledge of the "abstract principles of science" spoken about by Mr. Robert Stephenson.

There are now in the House of Commons some able representatives and advocates of the mining interests of the country, men who I believe are equal to their work, and who have before them their duty to the miner, to the mineowner, and manager in all its breadth and weight, but their number should be increased. There are now in the Commons House of Parliament representatives from towns depending on mine works for their very existence, and from counties full of collieries and iron mines, who are, nevertheless, in absolute ignorance of the condition of the miner, and of the difficult and responsible duties of the mine manager. This is no unfounded assertion—no mere chimerical auxiliary to my purpose. Is there no need of reform here?

I am heartily glad to find that Mr. Ingham is making a move in the right direction, and sincerely trust that much good may result from his enquiries. Were the very large and important portion of the community engaged in mining works adequately represented, much more would be done by the Government for the improved economy and safety of mines.

A great and glaring evil in connection with the present working of the Mines Inspection Act, is the incompetency of the magistrates, in most cases, to judge fairly and justly in informations laid against miners, colliery managers, and proprietors by the Inspectors. To give equitable judgment in cases of apparent breach of the law relating to the management of mines, the judicial authorities ought themselves to be thoroughly conversant with the circumstances under which the alleged breach has been made; in other words, they ought in all fairness to be acquainted with the practical difficulties with which the mine manager has to contend, otherwise neither the miner nor the manager is likely to obtain from their hands a reasonable or just verdict. I am aware that it is a very easy matter to point out existing evils, and declaim against them in plausible language, but we must remember the old saying, that "a knowledge of the disease is half the cure." It would not be a very difficult, nor a very expensive matter, to invest, say, three or four, thoroughly qualified and experienced mining engineers with magisterial power, one of whom could be instructed to sit with the magistrates now in authority to aid them in their decisions in all cases relating to mining. How farcical have been all the verdicts of manslaughter given against mine managers in cases of fatal colliery accidents! Now, I do not mean to say that the penalties in these cases ought to have been rigorously inflicted; on the other hand, I believe such penalty to be most unreasonable and unjust. Incompetency, through gross ignorance and want of experience and skill, was the cause of accident and loss of life in those cases, and to convict a man for manslaughter on such grounds is assuredly most absurd; the most reasonable penalty is to publicly prohibit the man from again taking upon himself the responsible management of a mine, and employers from employing him, until he has by some specified means shown proper qualification for the efficient discharge of his duties in such a situation.—Feb. 23.

VIGILANCE.

THE IRON TRADE—NEGLECTED GENIUS.

SIR.—I would offer a few remarks on the subject you brought forward last week—I refer to the names of Cort, Musket, Heath, and Rogers. It is, I believe, a striking fact at this day, that some of the first men in the ranks of science and literature have suffered from the neglect and injustice of their generation, and, after years of study, died unhonoured, but not unknown. It is too true that vast improvements have been made in the manufacture of iron by men who have not reaped a farthing benefit from those who are yearly pocketing immense sums of money, the fruits of unrequited toil; and I would, therefore, ask is it not in accordance with our sense of justice that the discoverer of any particular invention which extends the commerce of a country, and increases the national wealth, should be permitted to pass unremunerated? The memory of Burns has received due honour in the course of the past month; but he, like many men of equal genius in other walks of life, died in the midst of poverty. What are the monuments we erect to the memory of the dead, if the living are suffered to bear the sharpest pangs which neglect can produce. There are "many gems of purest ray serene" glittering in obscurity, to whom equal honour might be paid as that rendered to a Watt or Stephenson; and, therefore, I would ask, why should not the ironmasters of Great Britain render some tribute to Rogers, who for the last half-century has devoted his life to the manufacture and improvement of iron? It is an object which they might with honour to themselves forward. I am quite convinced, if the call you so eloquently make upon the ironmasters had been made to the trade generally, every person connected with it would have spontaneously come forward in that liberal manner which distinguishes Englishmen, and subscribed towards the tribute to be rendered to the genius of Rogers, who is yet alive; and, it might be, to the memory of the unfortunate Heath, Cort, and Musket. I hope that the appeal will not be lost sight of, but that some of the leading members of the iron trade, characterised for their love of truth and justice, will at once bestir themselves, and take the necessary steps towards putting the business on a proper footing. SANDBOTTOM.

Feb. 23.

MINING TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ROBERT HUNT, F.R.S.

SIR.—I am glad to see by the letters which have already appeared in your Journal that a movement has been commenced with the object of presenting a Testimonial to Mr. Robert Hunt, in acknowledgment of the very valuable services he has rendered to mining and metallurgical industry, by his records of mines, &c. Everyone interested in metals must feel deeply indebted to that gentleman for the vast amount of valuable information which for many years he has collected with so much ability and perseverance. It should be remembered that formerly no such records were kept in this country, and that the great advancement made in this respect of late years has been effected without any of that assistance which is given by the Governments of other countries, although their mineral wealth is greatly inferior to our own.

In Germany, the keeping a regular and systematic record of all mines has always been considered of such importance that long since it was compulsory. The advantages of such a system are evident, and it would seem that without the aid and authority of the State very little could be accomplished. But Mr. Hunt, notwithstanding this drawback, and many almost insuperable obstacles, has already done as much, and even more, for the statistics of mining and metallurgy than has been achieved elsewhere with all the advantages of compulsory records.

Seeing this, it appears to me that the least that can be done by both miners and smelters to show their appreciation of those labours which have rendered our mining records so full and exact, is to contribute to the Testimonial that has been proposed, and I hope soon to see it announced that a subscription list is opened, and a committee named for carrying out this proposal.—Feb. 24.

AN OLD SMELTER.

THE PATENT LAW, AND ITS REFORMERS.

SIR.—After the aid you have always afforded to the inventor's cause, I never expected to find in your Journal such an article as that which appeared in its columns on Feb. 12, entitled "The Patent Law, and its Reformers." However, *tempora mutantur et mutatur in illis*,—still on one point I expect to discover no change—that is, in your well-known impartiality in facilitating the free expression of opinion by all parties; hence I now address you, with the confident hope of being heard in opposition to that article.

For my part, I am not ashamed of being a friend to the inventor; and not a "pretended friend" either, as is evidenced, I trust, by my recorded sayings and doings, although I belong to that class (the patent agents) whose supposed "capacity" and sinister character are adverted to in the article in question.

The writer of that article has certainly made a new and glorious discovery in regard to the jurisprudence of this country, in as much as he has found an Act of Parliament in every respect; and if this be true, inventors have nothing to complain of, being, indeed, the most fortunate class in the community. But, Sir, the writer of that article has little practical acquaintance with inventors or inventions, for he says that the present state of the law does not offer any obstacle to the inventor, or prevent inventions being patented. This is not the fact, as I can personally testify, and as would very soon be found out by anyone who would take the trouble to make enquiries amongst the superior workmen in our workshops and manufactures, when they would discover numerous parties who have ingenious and practical novelties, which they are unable to patent, and bring before the public in a proper manner. But, as I have asserted often in your columns, and other publications, the present law, or any law which prevents protection from being obtained, or throw the great majority of inventors into the hands of the capitalist, in an unfair position, inasmuch as the Inventor thus comes to the capitalist without his invention being protected, and, therefore, liable to be flitched away from him. Then again, the new law, and the rules and regulations which it has pleased the Commissioners to make, and the practical working of the Act has cut down the present costly provisions protection to something like *three and a half months* duration, which in about three-fourths of the cases is ridiculously insufficient to enable any one to test the novelty and utility of an invention, so as to form a judgment as to whether he should spend further money in patenting and developing it.

Should the unfortunate inventor, from not being able to get the necessary money, or

from other cause, be hindered from completing the patent, no real extension is allowed, and the inventor must quietly see the invention surrendered to the public, and all the time and expense he has bestowed upon it go for nothing. As to patent agents' charges, cases of extortion may have occurred for aught I know; but the question is quite a personal one, seeing the inventor is not forced to apply to a patent agent, and ought to take care to apply to one whose terms suit him. As to the desirability of seeking the aid of a patent agent, I should be glad to put this on a right footing. If a more agent, and not an adviser who knows the law of patents, be all that is required, I should think the inventor might as well apply to the clerks at the Patent Office, who would, no doubt, refer him to a law stationer near the office, who would neatly and nicely copy out the necessary papers, and the cost of this would not be a great matter. But if the patent agents' charges, to be advised and directed as to the character and tenor of his provisional specification, &c., will resort to a competent agent, and will have to pay him for his time and skill. And when it is considered that the settling of a title, and the drawing up of a provisional specification, will often absorb the best part of a working day, and sometimes more than that, and that there will still be necessary some attendance at the office to deposit and receive documents, &c., 3*½* guineas, which is now the most common charge, is not much of an extortion. Indeed, it is very true there is plenty of competition, and, therefore, the inventor can have nearly his own terms. For my own part, I am always ready, whenever circumstances seem to demand it, to make arrangements to meet the pecuniary position of parties. As to patent agents having any jealousy of the proceedings of the Commissioners of Patents, in regard to rendering indexes and specifications open to the public as far as possible, I do not know the opinion of Mr. Hughes, who seems more particularly alluded to, but I think I may venture to state that all other patent agents hold these proceedings as a great boon; indeed, everything that is done in Mr. Woodcroft's department has been most satisfactory, but to build a new library and reading room, if not extravagant, is 25,000*£*, or 30,000*£*, a year, which is what the Government receives over and above the expenses of the office. Indeed the building of a library and reading rooms, and the printing of specifications, &c., is strictly speaking, as much a benefit to the public generally as to the inventor; therefore, the whole cost should not, in strict justice, be thrown upon the inventor. I should be glad to enter upon this subject hereafter, when I shall seek to show that the patent law is very defective in other points besides expense, and to state how I think it might and would have been amended under proper management. In one point I agree with the writer of that article, which is the statement that the Manchester Association is not the only one that has agitated reform successfully, as all your readers must know that the London National Patent Law Amendment Association, with which I have been accustomed to act, has done much, and I hope will do more.

Patent Office, Strand, W.C., Feb. 21.

gratuity from merchants, and could recollect but one instance of a mine captain receiving a bribe. "Pursers," he said, "are too respectable a class of men to commit such meanness."—Feb. 23.

A SHAREHOLDER IN CARGOLL.

WHEAL ADDAMS.

SIR.—It is often remarked that it is impossible to please every one, and I believe the correctness of the saying is never so forcibly shown when a practical man is obliged in the conscientious discharge of his duty, to make an unfavourable report on a mine he may be called in to inspect. In the case, however, of Wheal Addams the most shameful means have been resorted to throw discredit on the statements of a respectable agent. The facts have been distorted, the *suspicio falso* boldly attempted, and insinuations unscrupulously made which have not the very smallest foundation in truth.

As for myself, I can easily afford to hear these idle ravings of persons who cannot find any other mode of giving vent to their feelings than by shuffling of abuse, without being able to give a particle of proof for their groundless assertions. Their conduct, indeed, sufficiently evinces the annoyance which a truthful report has produced. In your Journal of the 12th inst. you did me the favour to insert a letter, in which I explained the steps I had taken to obtain a correct and impartial report on this mine. I will here only again point out that in his Annual Review, which appeared on Jan. 1, Mr. Watson alluded to the "conflicting statements" which he had received from different parties, and added that he was glad to find that the company were "having a report made by an independent agent." Capt. Nicholls did not inspect the mine for me until Jan. 3, and his report was not published for 10 days afterwards, so that it is clear that the company had felt obliged to call in some one before anything could be known of Captain Nicholls's views, or that he was going to inspect at all. Indeed, the statements made privately respecting the mine both at that time and since, were much more unfavourable than any published reports I have seen, and I was told of Capt. Hodge being selected to inspect as long ago as about Christmas last. I can easily believe that the speaker at the meeting last week should have wished that I had withheld Capt. Nicholls's report, but though that may be the principle upon which he would act, I can only tell him that I do not intend to follow his example on his advice; but if I employ an agent to inspect a mine for me, for the purpose of publication, I shall not fail to give it verbatim, even though it may express unflattering opinions on a mine with which myself may be connected, as I have already done, and in a more striking manner than in the case of Wheal Addams. I have not only nothing to regret in having published Capt. Nicholls's report, but it is a satisfaction to me to see that it is fully confirmed by every one who has inspected the mine, even including Capt. Hodge, the agent appointed by the company. Truly did a shareholder remark at the meeting—"There could be no doubt that the reports of both Capts. Nicholls and Hodge agreed that the mine was in a bad state, and that going through the minutes it seemed to be a repetition of the statements of Mr. Nicholls."

At the meeting I observe that Capt. Nicholls had "credit for every ability to inspect the mine," but, it was added, that "from his antecedents he was the very last man that ought to have inspected it." These, and other remarks made, constitute a serious attack on Capt. Nicholls's character, and clearly impute dishonesty to his report, a charge which I have no doubt he will feel himself called upon to demand an explanation of. I will only ask on this point, what is to be said of all those who fully confirm his report?

Let us now compare the reports of Capts. Nicholls and Hodge together. They commence thus—

Capt. Nicholls says—

"In compliance with your request, I proceeded to this mine this day, but am sorry to say I found it in such a very bad condition generally for inspection, occasioned by the late heavy rains, that it is impossible for me, or any other person, to give you a definite and honest opinion as to its future prospects."

Now, Sir, could it be possible for two men to make statements so identically the same? If Capt. Nicholls could not give an opinion on the mine because he could not inspect it properly, how comes it that Capt. Hodge is not only said to have done so, but that he is stated to have expressed himself so favourably of it? Why is Capt. Nicholls's conduct blamed, and Captain Hodge's, under exactly the same circumstances, approved?

Can those who are so strangely inconsistent explain themselves? But, Sir, see how the case is misrepresented—Capt. Nicholls does not give an opinion on the merits or "future prospects" of the mine, if properly and vigorously developed. He carefully abstains from doing so. He simply gives an account of the different places he was able to examine, and what he saw there, these places being principally the 18 and 28 fm. levels, and branches."

According to Capt. Hodge's statement, the operations have been confined generally to the 18 and 28 fm. levels on the different parts of the mine.

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Exmouth and Addams Mines my brother was the agent of Exmouth, under the Messrs. Williams, of Scorrier and Trevivian, Cornwall. When the purchase was complete my brother was appointed agent to the United Mines; but, after a careful inspection of Wheal Addams, he resigned the appointment. Thus, I clearly prove my brother never was a recognised agent of Wheal Addams. I have also made enquiries of the Abraham Hayman Capt. Moore spoke of, who states "his son never worked in that part of the mine referred to, and had left the country many years before Capt. Moore came into the district"; therefore, Capt. Moore never saw him, neither did Abraham Hayman tell him such as Capt. Moore said he did. In short, Capt. Moore's letter contains so many "hads, ifs, and buts" that I can hardly comprehend it. He asks, "Is it true that a branch of ore was seen in a cross-cut driven west from Williams's shaft, coming into Wheal Addams?" &c. I never have seen such a thing, or heard of it, before; but it is true that he carried a lot of stuff called "copper ore" to Teignbridge, which would not sell, and the blame of which he saddles on the committee; I only know that the blame lays somewhere, and it was a reprehensible affair.

Next, I shall notice the remarks made in the report of the meeting. Capt. Moore first says he had never seen any good men in the mine, except at intervals. I am happy to say we have a good men working in our mines as are to be found in England, and most decidedly we have no cottages for them to live in. Next, we notice the Chairman, who very shrewdly, in his way, endeavours to refute the assertion that the pay was not forthcoming at its proper time, and, as an attempted proof, held up the "large cost-sheets" as an example. The cost-sheet, however large it might have been, I again seriously assert was not paid at its proper time, and some of the few hands he had left in consequence.

In the agent's report read at the meeting they state that they have seen "the north extremity of the old company's workings with one exception." How can that possibly be, when they have never been under the 40, and not even there in the north part of the mine? This is a very lame refutation of my assertions certainly, and fails to the ground. I still adhere to what I have said. Neither end of the mine has been yet seen by the present party, unless they mean they have seen it at surface. I shall not make more comments on the agent's report, but it is open to a lengthy epistle. We now come again to the Chairman, where he referred to the statement made in Mr. Murchison's "Review," relative to the 40 fm. level being choked. This is an incontrovertible fact; otherwise, let any one explain how the water stands 12 fathoms higher in the north than in the south part of the mine.

Next, we come to notice Mr. Cooke's remarks: I agree with him that "great caution should be exercised in selecting a man to inspect their mine," for most assuredly the more honest men inspect it, under the present management, the greater will be the exposure. I next demand of Mr. Cooke a public explanation as to my antecedents, of which he appears to be so well informed. At the same time, I would also thank him to explain where I reflected on Capt. Hodge's reputation. Again, while we are following Mr. Cooke, he says "Wheal Addams is a mine making fair returns, which almost meet its cost." Can Mr. Cooke point out to the public an isolated instance of an old mine, having returned moderate quantities of ore, where the burrows and arches (provided the ore made shale) would not pay for working over on a limited scale? but he must remember the burrows and arches at Wheal Addams are not very extensive, and must necessarily soon be exhausted. It is rather extraordinary, too, if Capt. Hodge thought the mine was calculated under proper management to make 1000*t*. profit per quarter that he did mention it in his report, for by omitting it he omitted something of the greatest importance (?) Next, we see Mr. Cook mentioned the name of "Hollow." I have carefully read his report, and must pronounce it a fair and candid one: however, it be understood, I do not know the man. Next, we come to Capt. Moore's reply in answer to another question—I faintly deny having said any such thing to him as says I did about the management. I should be very sorry, most decidedly, to recommend any company of gentlemen to work a mine as Wheal Addams is now being worked; neither did I throw it in his teeth as to whether I thought the prospects good, bad, or indifferent. I come again to the Chairman, and follow him where he censures Mr. Murchison for publishing my report after I had stated the mine was unfit for inspection. Allow me to tell the Chairman, for I see he is unacquainted with mining, that any mine being fairly worked is always fit for inspection, without weeks, days, or hours notice for fitting up. If the mine be poor let it be reported so, and no one will reprehend a report honestly in accordance therewith. At the Chairman stated at the meeting that Capt. Hodge was a man of more experience than myself: this remark, no doubt, suited their purpose, but I ask, in common justice to all parties, whether he knows either of us, and whether we are aged, respectively, 20 and 70 years, with corresponding experience?

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I call on both the Chairman and Mr. Cooke to give a public explanation of my antecedents. I shall also instruct my solicitor to demand an explanation legally.—Frank Mills Mine, Feb. 21.

J. P. NICHOLLS.

P.S.—I have just had an interview with one of Wheal Addams miners, before two respectable witnesses, and charged him strictly to speak the truth, to which he could confirm by oath if required to do so. He said—"The water this day in Addams Mine is about 1 foot under the brow of the 40 pit," which is about 2 feet higher than when I saw the mine on Jan. 3. This is another specimen of Wheal Addams reports, circulated in London.—J. P. NICHOLLS : Feb. 22.

WHEAL ADDAMS—HODGE v. NICHOLLS.

In looking over the Journal of last week, I was amused by reading the statements made at this meeting by one or two shareholders, as to "the great abilities and the great reputation" enjoyed by Capt. Hodge, as "being the fittest man in England," and a "man of more experience" than Capt. Nicholls. I would ask in what particular instance of mine inspection Capt. Hodge has excelled by the correctness of his reports, or the recommendations he has suggested, so as to claim the superiority as a lead miner above that of Capt. Nicholls? It could not have been in the inspection of Herodsfoot Mine, some time since, as Capt. Nicholls's report has been verified by another of a recent date, made by Capt. Hollow. We will await the result, and prove which is right, Capt. Hodge or Capt. Nicholls. I give great credence to the latter, and believe his to be a fair and honest report; and am perfectly satisfied that Capt. Nicholls has had equal experience to Capt. Hodge in every department of mining, lead mines especially, in whatever estimation he may be held by brokers, some of whom I presume were at the meeting. But little confidence can be generally placed in any agents' reports who are dealers in mine shares, and are in regular correspondence with brokers; and I regret to say there are too many in the Liskeard district.—Feb. 23.

T. JOHNS.

Meetings of Mining Companies.

WEST CRINNIS AND REGENT UNITED MINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of shareholders was held at the company's offices, Austinfriars, on Wednesday.

Mr. W. J. PIERCE in the chair.

Mr. W. CHARLES (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that that meeting had been convened rather because the time had passed when their general meeting should have been held than from any good information that was to be imparted. He had always had an impression that when shareholders were kept in ignorance of the real position of their affairs distrust was generally created in the managing body. It was on that account that he had presented their secretary to call the meeting, but Mr. Charles was anxious that some definite information as to the real state of their mine should be obtained before such meeting was held. Mr. Charles had been warranted in that procrastination, insomuch as they had been daily expecting some discovery from the various lodes that were being worked upon in the mine, but up to the present time it had not been their good fortune to receive information of such discovery having been made. There was, however, no reason to despair, for they were in a rather better position than at the previous meeting. Great expenses had been incurred in extensive but necessary works old levels had been cleared, which required a great deal of timber, and the weather of late had caused the necessity for increased pumping. Therefore, although a quantity of ore had been raised and disposed of, they did not stand in a much better position than in August last. The liabilities had been decreased from 1945*t*, to 1500*t*, besides liquidating several claims that were sent in subsequent to the date of their last meeting. It was the duty of the present meeting to urge the committee in a position to enable them to meet the deficiency that existed, to decide upon some course to get rid of the shares that were at present on hand.

The SECRETARY then read the reports, as follows:—

Feb. 22.—After draining the mine to the 80 we extended the 80 east on the lode nearly 25 fms., through a large lode, containing good stones of ore, but not a regular course. We intend now putting up a rise to the 70, which will cut out stoping ground. The 70 has been extended west from shaft 40 fms., on a promising lode, with stones of ore. The 60 is extended west of shaft about 70 fms., the last 20 fms. through an oxy lode that will pay for stoping: we are now putting up a rise just behind the end, to communicate with the 40, which is likely to open out good stoping ground. We have intersected Bell's lode in the 70, and are now rising towards the 40; and as that lode made much copper ore above the 40 we have every reason to expect much copper from the 40 to the 70; the lode at present in the rise is about 1 ft. wide, producing some good ore. We have been opening out good ore ground of late in the 30 west, on Bell's lode. We are getting just the same quantities of ore from the upper levels as for several months past, but this will soon fall off, or become less than at present; therefore, I cannot see how we can increase the returns before the rises are holed to the levels above, and new ground sufficiently cut out and ventilated. We find the ground cheap and easy for extending the levels, and having a great extent before all the drivings we have good speculative objects. All the machinery, shafts, and pumpworks are in excellent order, and a few months more will complete our most important objects.—J. WEBB.

Feb. 23.—Since the last meeting, the works at the mines have been continued in an energetic manner, so as to arrive at the chief objects for which their draining was commenced. At the last meeting the mines were drained to the 70, since that time the 80 has been drained and cleared to the extent of the old workings, and has since been driven 20 fms. through a large oxy lode, which will pay well for working away as soon as a winge is put through from that level to the 70. We have cleared and secured the 70 to the end of the old workings, and have since extended thereon, and shall continue to do so, as we have a promising lode in the end at this time; we have driven a cross-cut in this level north to intersect Bell's lode, which has been done, and a rise will now be put through to the 40, which will, doubtless, open out a great deal of stoping ground; this lode has yielded large quantities of copper ore above the 40, and we have reason to believe that we shall find it productive below that level. The 60 has been also cleared to the end of the old workings, and the end driven since on the course of the lode; this end has been opening out oxy ground, and when the rise is through to the 40 a large quantity of stoping ground will be laid open. The 40 has also been driven through oxy ground. The 30 has been, and is now being, driven on the course of Bell's lode, which gives a fair quantity of ore since the last meeting—in fact, more has been produced than could reasonably be expected, seeing that the mines were worked twice before our working above the 40. As soon as the rises are put through from the various levels, as stated in the agent's report, we shall doubtless increase the returns, but up to this moment the operations have been directed to driving the several levels, to prepare ground for stoping, but for the want of communication with the upper levels the ore ground opened has not been available for returns, therefore, as yet we have derived but little or no benefit therefrom. Captain Webb states that about three months will be necessary to put the rises through to the various levels, when we can make these reserves available. As the mines are now cleared, and as there are so many promising points on the lodes being operated on—10 in number—should any two of those prove productive, profits would soon be made.

There has not been sufficient time as yet to open on the lodes since the mines have been drained to attain any great result, but from so many ends and rises all must admit that the prospects of the mines have much improved since the last meeting. The sales of ore for the six months since the last meeting have been 2781*t*. 16*s*. 1*d*., and for ten months before that 1998*t*. 14*s*. 4*d*. The outlay to clear and secure the various levels, and to complete the engine-shaft to the 40, has been great, though this expenditure was essentially necessary for the working of the mines, but it is hoped now, that every succeeding month will allow the works to be increasingly productive. Every economy has been observed

commensurate with a proper working; there is a balance against the mine, and it will be for the meeting to decide how it shall be dealt with.—W. J. PRINCE.

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|------------------------------|---------------------|
| The accounts showed— | |
| Capital | £1383 7 0 |
| Copper ore sold | 2091 11 10 |
| Sandries | 20 6 0 = £3492 4 10 |
| Balance | £ 94 16 6 |
| Mine cost | 2693 18 5 |
| Merchants' bills | 336 1 5 |
| Sundry bills | 169 8 8 |
| Repayment | 10 0 0 = 3304 5 0 |
| Leaving credit balance | £193 19 10 |

The balance of liabilities over assets was 1534*t*. 6s. 10d.

Mr. MILNE (an auditor) bore testimony to the very satisfactory state of the accounts, which had been kept in a clear and explicit manner.

The SECRETARY, in answer to a remark made by Mr. Porter, said that certain persons had applied for shares, but not having paid upon them they were not taken up; in addition to which 120 had been created. With regard to the dividing of these shares pro rata, difficulties stood in the way—the number was insufficient, and, therefore, to adopt this course they would have to be divided into 20ths.

A SHAREHOLDER, referring to the shares yet on hand, said that a person might receive information of a discovery having been made at the mine, and by taking up these shares deprive other shareholders of the opportunity of availing themselves of that advantage.

The SECRETARY assured the proprietors that if any discovery were made of any importance every shareholder would be apprised. The course he had always pursued was as soon as a discovery was made that was likely to effect a palpable alteration the fact was notified to each shareholder by that evening's post.

The CHAIRMAN thought it would be unwise so to cripple their secretary that he could not allot those shares without obtaining the sanction of the directors. It was, he thought, perfectly understood that in the event of a discovery no more shares were to be allotted until the directors had been apprised of the fact.

The SECRETARY, in answer to a question, observed that he had not the slightest doubt that productive ground would be opened out. With reference to the convening of the present meeting, some of the Northampton shareholders were very anxious that it should be held; but he (the secretary) was anxious that some satisfactory result should have been attained on the course of the lodes before the meeting was held. There was, however, no reason to despond. They had promising lodes in their levels, and a chance of opening out good ground. The mine was in excellent working order, and many of the charges had ceased. When the rises or holes had been put through a great deal of ground would be opened out. Their returns had been made chiefly from the backs, in ground that had been opened by the old company; so that when the winzes were through they would be able to work on new ground. Never had he known the mine in such a satisfactory position as at the present time. Although they were not paying their expenses, their returns had nearly met their labour cost; and their present rises would give a considerable extent of stoping ground. Many of the expenses had been paid out of capital. These expenses would be about the same until the holes were put through. They were now paying 4*s*. per fathom, but they would then pay only 3*s*. per fathom for stoping; but they should be fortunate enough to find a deposit of ore in any two of the ten points, they would at once be in a paying state.

The CHAIRMAN, after complimenting Mr. Charles on the very satisfactory answers given to the questions that had been put to him, proposed that the reports be received and adopted, and that the accounts, as certified by the auditors, be passed and allowed, which having been put was carried unanimously.

The SECRETARY, in answer to a question, replied that there remained 447*t*. in arrears of call, which included 100*t*. upon the odd call.

It was resolved that all shares upon which there were arrears of call should be placed in the solicitor's hands, for the purpose of being placed in the Stannaries or other Court. A call of 10*s*. per share was then made, 5*s*. to be paid on March 14, and 5*s*. on May 14; but that no shares be transferred unless the full amount of call be previously paid.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman having been unanimously accorded, the proceedings terminated.

GAWTON COPPER MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the company's offices, Austinfriars, on Monday,

Mr. T. ROWLANDS in the chair.

Mr. E. KING (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed. The accounts showed:—

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|--|----------------------|
| Nov. mine cost, merchants' bills, &c. | £169 2 1 |
| Dec. ditto | 163 4 5 |
| Jan. ditto | 206 12 7 = £538 19 1 |
| Balance last audit | £ 23 10 2 |
| Call | 300 0 0 |
| Copper ore sold | 161 5 2 = 484 15 4 |
| Leaving debit balance | £ 54 3 9 |

The following report was then read:—

Feb. 19.—Since the last quarterly general meeting, the 50 fm. level east has been driven 14 fms., and is extended from the engine-shaft 52 fms.; the lode is from 3 to 4 ft. wide, composed of capel and mundic, with spots of copper, but not to value. You will perceive a small cross-course has been intersected here, which is, no doubt, the first marked on the plan, but having a dip east I did not at first identify it; the present indications show we are approaching another cross-course, as the water is oozing out from all parts of the end. The 50 west is driven 70 fms. from the engine-shaft. In my former report I alluded to a large lode in the rise dipping west, which would be met with in driving the 50; it is evident we are entering in this lode, which is 4 ft. wide, composed of capel and mundic, and copper ore; and letting out a great deal of water, and looks very kindly; I think from the promising character of the lode it will prove as we extend west on its course, and some profitable ground will be laid open; it is now producing some saving work. The lode in the 36 fm. level has been, during the last 3 or 4 fms. driving, much disturbed by a horse of kilns, which appears to be wearing out, and is producing some good stones of copper ore: this end being recently drained by the 50, and well ventilated, is now in a good position for driving. The lode in the top of the 36 fm. level is 6 ft. wide, the oxy part being on the north wall about 2 ft. wide, worth 10*s*. per fathom. I estimate the cost for the next three months at about 500*t*. including stores, dues, &c., and, from present appearances, may calculate on sampling from 36 to 40 tons bi-monthly until a further discovery is made. We expect to ship on Monday a parcel of mudi, about 40 tons.—J. GILL.

The accounts and report, after some conversation, were received and passed.

A call of 1*s*. 6*d*. per share was made, payable within 14 days.

The proposition of Mr. MATTHEW, seconded by Mr. CHAMBERS, it was resolved that the names of shareholders in arrears of call be forwarded by the secretary to the merchants, with instructions to them to adopt any course they may deem most expedient. The committee of management were re-elected.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman having been unanimously accorded, the proceedings terminated.

TREWEATHA MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the company's offices, Adam's-court, Old Broad-street, on Thursday,

Mr. J. BALSTER in the chair.

Mr. W. J. DUNSFORD (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the last, which were confirmed. The accounts were passed, and the following report of Capts. G. Richards and W. Rowe read:—

Feb. 23.—Since the last general meeting the engine-shaft has been sunk below the 90 about 3 fms.; ground cut for bearers and cistern-plat, the bearers and penthouse put in, and all made complete for receiving the new pitwork, nearly the whole of which, as of all other recent attentions, would have been in a more forward state but for the increased of water caused by the late heavy rains. However, we are glad to say that an abatement appears to be taking place, and we hope shortly to be enabled to change the pumpwork, and resume sinking. The 90 has been extended altogether, north and south, about 40 fms. The lode on the average is much larger than in the upper levels, and several places present very promising appearance, and throughout the drive has produced some saving work, but not in sufficient quantities to pay; therefore, we have for the present suspended these drivages. The 70 north has been extended 19 fms. 3 ft. 9 in., and for more than 6 fms. produced some goodstones of ore. The present end, however, is poor, and suspended. The 50 cross-cut has been extended 3 fms., and before driving further in this direction we have decided upon (and commenced operations) opening on the backs of the lodes in the north ground, which is unexplored for 150 fms. in length. The ground here is of the best description—is of kilns, with courses of eaves passing through it, and quite congenial to the production of lead ore. We have now on the mine about 14 tons of copper ore and 6 tons of seconds, to which we shall add a little more from the best stopes. In some former reports we have suggested the propriety of putting round a level into the south ground, where there is a piece of unexplored lode from 50 to 60 fms. long, all high and dry above the 90. We would, therefore, beg to draw attention thereto.

BOUTH explained that they had taken the property of the company at its cost, but for the correct value at the present moment he thought if they wrote off the 98,000/- they would be about right.

Mr. JENNINGS supposed all their other assets were overvalued to a similar extent. He saw reserved fund 17,500/-, yet in 1853 they had 800/-, so that it was evident that a false statement was made by the directors in 1853. Indeed, he had heard from Mr. HERAPATH that the 800/- never existed except on paper.

Mr. HERAPATH denied ever having made such a statement. It was true he had said in the course of conversation with Mr. Jennings that it did not exist as a reserved fund, but that it existed as an available asset no one could dispute.

Mr. JENNINGS saw "money orders, 1853," 61/-, 6s. 5d., and "new account" 6898/-, 15s. 1d. What was that G11?

Mr. SCHNEIDER explained that the item "money orders" was drafts issued in the colony. It was inconvenient to keep the necessary amount of money at the works, so money orders, which, in fact, were cheques, were drawn and usually paid in Adelaide. In 1853 orders to the extent of 61/- were issued, but were never presented for payment, yet as they did not know when they might be presented, they were obliged to keep the amount open.

Mr. JENNINGS saw, again, in the assets "improvements at Port Adelaide 500/-." Could the property of the company at Port Adelaide be sold for that amount?

Mr. SCHNEIDER would not give his opinion as to the value of that property, as it might be thought he was overvaluing it, but he would say that it was one of the best assets on the balance-sheet. He would say it was nearer worth 10,000/- than 5000/-.

Mr. JENNINGS asked what was the salary received by Mr. Hamilton, and whether he had overvalued it?

Mr. SCHNEIDER said that Mr. Hamilton's salary was 1000/- a year, and that he had overdrawn his account by 1300/-, but as this had been necessitated by extra expenses, occasioned by Mr. Hamilton's removal from one place to another to further the interests of the company, the directors had been thinking that it would be only a graceful act on the part of the company to write the 1300/- off.

Mr. JENNINGS then indulged in a personal and ungentlemanly attack upon the Chairman and executive, which for his (Mr. Jennings') sake we do not report.

Mr. SUTTOS asked whether the lease was signed, and also whether the agreement under which the company were dealing with the Burns Burns Company was signed?

Mr. SCHNEIDER said the lease was not signed, nor the agreement, but the drafts were signed, and the agreement, *in extenso*, had been prepared, and was daily expected.

Mr. SUTTOS asked that in 1862 their agent would expire, yet from what he understood from Mr. Routh, the entire cost of the patent was still put down as an asset. Why was not that written off at some per cent. per annum? He contended that, like a lease, the value of the patent had been continually decreasing, and, therefore, something should have been written off each year.

Mr. WALK thought there seemed to be a want of confidence in the directors, and he, therefore, thought that a vote of want of confidence in them should be passed.

Mr. JENNINGS thought it would be a graceful act on the part of the directors to retire. He considered that the entire management was bad.

Mr. ROUTH did not entertain the same opinion of Mr. Hamilton as Mr. Jennings did. He thought the very fact of him stating the amount in the accounts against himself showed that he was a man of honour, for nothing would have been easier than to have concealed it altogether, by charging the company with the expenses incurred in its affairs. What Mr. Hamilton had done he believed may have with his heart in the right place would have done to further the interests of the company, and he did not, therefore, think they should complain because he had overdrawn his account a little.

Mr. JENNINGS wished to know the salaries of the secretary and clerks in the London offices, the rent of offices, &c., and was replied by Mr. Schneider. He (Mr. Jennings) thought they should sweep away from Gracechurch-street, as everything there was bad.

Mr. BOWEN (a director) was happy to say he had not been at 17, Gracechurch-street long enough to feel the contamination, but was ready to give up his seat at the board if the shareholders thought they could find amongst their body a better or more honourable man to fill it.

The CHAIRMAN said that as he had a large stake in the company, he could assure them he should not retire unless he was compelled.

Mr. SCHNEIDER said that, as committee-men, they felt that they were the trustees of the shareholders. If gentlemen would refer back, they would find that when that committee was formed the company was in a very different position from what it was at the present time; but it was impossible to renovate a large company like that in 6 or 12 months. They were, however, striving gradually and earnestly to place it in a good working condition. Several points of Mr. Hamilton's management would be altered, and restrictions had been placed upon the bank. The accounts would be remitted by every mail, showing the receipts and payments; and the company was gradually getting into an effective working condition. He had spent many days in minutely examining the accounts, with the assistance of Mr. Moates, and they found that a profit of 22,000/- had been made in two years, after payment of all expenses. With regard to their expenses in Australia, it would be seen that there had been a saving of 17,000/-: the wages in 1857 were 20,819/-, whereas in 1858 they had only been 18,000/-, showing a difference of 2819/-.

By what, he would ask, did that company make profit? and what had they intended to do? It was by smelting ore in Australia, and producing copper therefrom. But instead of this they had been shipping ores to England. This was the root of their non-success. Now, the recommendations of the committee were that the whole of their furnaces immediately be put in order. There could be no doubt they possessed all the elements of success; therefore, they must all combine in endeavouring to carry out the recommendation and suggestions of the committee of investigation. The committee of conference had met monthly with, and, in accordance with their suggestions, a resident superintendent, with a resident accountant, had been engaged, who would shortly leave for their works in Australia. He saw the elements of success in their company, and, therefore, instead of looking back to the original prospectus, he was anxious that every shareholder should energise his every effort in making their enterprise a paying concern. With regard to their board of directors, from what he had seen of their ability and assiduity, the company would be placed in an anomalous position, and unable to carry on its business, if deprived of the practical wisdom of their present directors. Instead of that they must add elements of strength to that direction. Although the position of the company was exceedingly healthy, and there were assets amounting to 26,000/-, he thought a distribution would be impolitic. Taking it as a whole, the accounts were correct. With regard to the loss accruing to the company consequent upon the decrease in the price of copper, he wanted to invent some means by which to prevent the whole loss from falling upon their company; the agreement ought to be altered in such a way as to render the Burns Burns partially responsible, for these drops in copper were a serious loss. He objected to the distribution of the assets, for he was desirous of seeing them in a strong financial position, and with sufficient funds in hand to enable them to be registered under the Limited Liability Act, the more especially as there had been a bill introduced into Parliament, which would enable all companies to be placed under that Act.

Mr. HERAPATH said that, although 15,000/- or 16,000/- would be as much as would be required to meet the ordinary wants of the company as at present constituted, still it was in their wish to come under the Limited Liability Act, he considered that a good balance in hand was absolutely necessary, for of course they would have to show that they had good security to meet any debt which they might wish to incur.

Mr. H. SMITH asked whether the land at Wakefield was sold, or intended to be sold?

The CHAIRMAN replied that it was not sold, but it would be.

The report was then adopted, the committee of conference was agreed to be continued in office for another year, and Sir C. Rich, Bart., was re-elected a director, and Mr. Bentick auditor, for the ensuing year.

The CHAIRMAN said that, in accordance with his statement at the commencement of the meeting, he would now move that the distribution of 2s. 6d. per share from the assets of the company be made instead of dividend. He held so large an interest in the company that his vote would decide the question either way; but as he was always desirous to meet the wishes of other shareholders he would not vote on the present occasion, but the question as to whether the distribution should be made or not should be decided by show of hands, and he would, in case of a ballot being necessary, promise to vote with the majority.

Upon the show of hands being taken, 26 voted for the distribution and 20 against it, whenupon Mr. H. SMITH, considering that the reduction of the funds at the disposal of the directors was against the interests of the company, demanded a poll, but as the Chairman said that, in accordance with his promise, he would vote for the distribution, the ballot was considered useless.

Mr. JENNINGS then proposed a vote of thanks to the committee of conference, for their exertions on behalf of the company, and the meeting separated.

GOLD DISCOVERIES.—The Tasmanian Government have placed a sum of 5000/- upon the estimates, to be appropriated as a reward for the discovery of a payable gold-field in the colony.

In addition to this, Mr. Chapman has given notice of his intention to move that a sum of 900/- should be placed on the estimates for next year, to defray the cost of erecting at Hobart Town machinery for testing auriferous quartz.

PRESENTATION TO MR. THOMAS STEPHENSON, OF ROTHWELL.—On

Tuesday evening, an excellent supper was provided at the Miners' Arms (Mr. D. Brock's) Rothwell, by some gentlemen, in admiration of the conduct of Mr. Stephenson during the late strike, towards which Mr. John Calverley, Oulton Hall, liberally contributed.

After supper a handsome electro-plated tea service, executed by Mr. F. J. Fowler, of Sheffield, consisting of tea pot, coffee pot, sugar basin, and cream jug (the last two lined with gold) was presented by Mr. C. J. Jewison, coroner, on behalf of the miners of Messrs. Charlesworth, to Mr. Thomas Stephenson, and who, in an excellent speech, in the delivery of which he was heartily applauded, congratulated the miners on the termination of the strike, and particularly Mr. Stephenson, for the humane part he had taken in the struggle, and hoped that his life and that of his family might be long spared to enjoy the handsome, elegant present the miners had awarded him, in token of respect for their fellow-townsmen, who had laboured indefatigably for many years to improve the condition of the poor miner, by suggesting to parliamentary committees and Government a better ventilation in mines, so as to prevent fearful colliery explosions. The tea pot was beautifully engraved the following inscription:—"Presented to Mr. Thos Stephenson, of Rothwell, by the miners of Messrs. Charlesworth, as a mark of gratitude and esteem for his untiring efforts to better the moral and physical condition of the poor miner, everywhere, during the last twenty years—22nd Feb., 1859.—Also, for his unceasing, peaceful, humane efforts to aid the suffering poor, and put an end to the ruinous strike of 1858, and which, to a certain extent, he had the honour to be a party satisfactorily to accomplish." A list of the subscribers to the testimonial having been handed to Mr. Stephenson for preservation, he very feelingly and suitably acknowledged the handsome gift, and assured them that on all occasions, when opportunity offered, he should still, independent of any testimonial, as a matter of duty owing to God and humanity, as heretofore press their claims upon the Government and country, in a respectful manner, until they were made, as they could and ought to be, comparatively happy and safe while engaged in their dangerous mining avocations.—The Rothwell brass band was present, and played many excellent airs in honour of their native townsmen. The wives of the miners also had a tea given on the Wednesday evening.

EAST WHEAL RUSSELL.—In last week's Circular I remarked on the excitement in the Mining Market in consequence of the lode being just cut into in the 88, and the important discovery made in a pitch in the 66. On Thursday, the 17th inst., shares were 9½, 10, and by a reference to the "Daily Record of Prices" the rapid advance daily made will be seen; and it is not to be wondered at, looking at the extraordinary and important discoveries made in this mine during the past week or ten days.

The agent, in a report received at the office this morning, states, in the 88 end east the lode is not yet cut through—so far (4½ to 5 ft.) is a very rich lode; the value will be given in a few days. The 66 pitch is valued at 160/-, and he believes, when cut through, will be worth 200/- and upwards. This mine is surrounded by the following mines, all within 1½ miles in circumference:—Devon Great Consols, Drake Walls, Wheal Edward, Wheal Arthur, Wheal Creborth, Bedford United, Gavton Copper, Bedford Consols, East Gunnis Lake and South Bedford, Hawkmoor, Calstock Consols, Devon and Courtney, Fawcett Rock, Lady Bertha, Devon and Cornwall, Okel Tor, all of which are now at very depressed prices (with the exception of Devon Great), and judicious selection at the present price ought to be made, as, without a doubt, a very considerable rise will take place here.

It is believed that the East Russell lodes pass through Wheal Arthur and Wheal Edward, or Drake Walls, and, considering the very low price of these shares, they are recommended.—Peter Watson's Circular.

MINING NOTABILIA.

[EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.]

WHEAL UNION.—The sale of tin on Feb. 19 realised 415/- 15s.

NORTH ROBERT has sold a fine pile of ore, with carriage, worth 1500/- This mine is well and carefully managed by intelligent agents.

EAST FALMOUTH lode sold at 28/- per ton, realising nearly 1000/- They have another parcel of seconds for sale, and 90 tons of rich jack, or zinc ore, which will leave a considerable profit to the company.

WHEAL CHARLOTTE statement of assets and liabilities (which was laid before the meeting) showed a balance in favour of mine of 2182/- 4s. 2d. A comparative statement of ore sold showed—Oct., 1857, 404/- 4s. 2d.; Dec., 51/- 1s. 2d. 5d.; Feb., 1858, 598/- 7s. 1d.; Oct., 1857, 14s. 7d.; Dec., 1328/- 7s. 9d.; Feb., 1859, 1748/- 1s. 5d. The total value of the ore sold since 1854 has been 26,807/- 5s. 4d., and the mine now daily improving.

OLD TOLGUS UNITED.—The ground in the cross-cut in the 42 is favourable, and the lode will soon be intersected. The lode has improved in the 32 west; 36 tons of blonde have been sampled, and about 40 tons copper will be sampled next week.

EAST WHEAL RUSSELL.—I have been underground at East Russell today. The discovery in the 66 is splendid; the lode has been cut into about 8 ft., and the north wall seen yet, I should think it is worth at least 200/- per fm. The lode in the 88 has been cut into about 4 feet, and looks well; the main part of the lode seems to be still ahead.—JOSEPH COCK: Feb. 23.

OLD FOXDALE MINE (Isle of Man).—A very fine rib of silver ore has been cut in the granite in the 72 fathom level, which upon assaying shows a produce of 7½ lb. per fm, and 256 ozs. of silver.

BASSET UNITED MINES are now attracting the attention of many who know the locality. The sett is situated in one of the best mineral districts in Cornwall, and is bounded on the north by Great Wheal Towan and Wheal Charlotte, which have given considerable profits; and on the south by Wheal Rose, North Downs, Tresekerry, and Wheal Chance, which have all made profits to the adventurers. These mines include Wheal Music and part of old Wheal Basset. Wheal Music has not been worked for the last 35 years, and is still celebrated for its quality of native copper, which realises 70/- and 80/- per ton, and left a profit of 35,000/- to the adventurers at a depth of 30 fms. below the adit. Capt. J. W. Hunt, an able and worthy miner, has now formed a company, and it is hoped will prosper in the concern.

KESWICK.—These mines have much improved during the last fortnight. There is a fine lode in the 30, worth more than 10 cwt. per fm., and promising further improvement. The 40 north and 50 south have also improved.

MINING IN CUMBERLAND.—It is interesting to find that capitalists are alive to the value of mineral deposits among the beautiful districts of this country, presenting, as they do, prospects of more than ordinary character. Some of the richest lead mines in the world may be seen, worked as private concerns, such as Brownlow Hill, Greenside, Nent Head, Hudgill Burn, Rodeshope Fell, Roughton Gill, and many others; also the progressive mines, Barl, Green Harth, Keswick, and the celebrated Borrowdale black lead mine, which has recently been set to work by a London company. This mine has been closed for the last seven years, the proprietors having amassed profits from limited operations, and according to the present prospects, similar results are again likely to take place. A level is driven into the mountain 250 fms. to reach the main body of plumbago at an increased depth, which is likely to be met with a vein. A vein of silver-lead is also being opened in the property likely to prove of great value. It is worthy of note the discovery of gold in the Silurian and clay-slate formation of this district, which is found in the sands at the head of Borrowdale, rounded by the action of running water. It is also found near Buttermere and Windermere, showing the highly mineralised strata. Capitalists would do well to give this locality a share of attention, and especially when they find a pioneer like Mr. J. H. Hitchins, the fortunate discoverer of Devon Great Consols, East Russell, and many other, fixing upon the neighbourhood of Keswick for future operations, they cannot do worse than follow so safe a leader. Here are lodes, or veins, innumerable and inexhaustible; copper calamine, gold, lead, and silver veins variously distributed all over the county.

CARVATH UNITED MINES.—These mines are improving. There is a good lode in the 40 west, and, as the ground is whole to the surface, a great quantity of ore will be opened. The stopes in the back of the 50 are looking well. The new east shaft is progressing favourably, and the engine will soon be erected.

EAST RUSSELL has caused more attraction than any other mine, and had more inspections even than Lady Bertha. The whole reports, by various agents from different localities, concur in representing it as one of the best discoveries since the Devon Consols. Nothing has been disguised; no agents refused inspection, the agent only too proud to show the fine course of ore. I have on several occasions been on the mine when the agents have made their appearance; all appeared to be astonished. Those who have seen the Australian ores say that if seen out of the mine the ore would be said to be from Burns Burns, it has the colours of the rainbow. The tributaries, report says, will get their own pounds by the discovery: so they ought. It is talked of in the locality that the poor working men are to be regaled with something substantial, to celebrate this important discovery; and no doubt Mr. Murchison will soon see to this.

GREAT CRINNIS.—The new shaft is down 17 fms., and the rise above the 64 is up 11 fms. The rises are commenced in the backs of the 31 and 45 fm. levels, and the cutting down of the winze below the 64 is progressing satisfactorily. Nearly 40 fms. of the new shaft have been completed in two months. From 50 to 60 tons of ore will be sampled in a few days.

DENHAM BRIDGE.—From the appearance of the end a further improvement is daily expected, there being several branches in the ground by the side of the lode which have not been met with before.

MARKE VALLEY.—A good improvement has taken place in the 90; a stream of water had been issuing from the end for several days before, but on Saturday last they succeeded in cutting splendid stones of yellow copper ore, which is believed to be the same course of ore which they have driven through for 70 fathoms in length in the level above.

SOUTH LADY BERTHA.—The winze has been holed between the 30 and 40; there is a good brand of good quality ore in the winze.

GREAT WHEAL VOR.—Although I advised you last week that the engine would not go to work before Saturday last, I am now glad to state that the breakage which took place in the 14 on Wednesday, February 9, was repaired, and the engine went to work on Friday last, the 11th inst. The water rose to the back of the 24 fathom level, and it is feared that it will not be in fork again to the bottom for some weeks to come.

BULLER AND BASSET UNITED.—The shaft is being sunk below the 65 with all speed. The lode in the 65, both east and west, is from 3 ft. to 4 ft. wide, composed of fluor-spar, and spotted with rich yellow copper ore throughout—in fact, giving every indication of being productive.

EAST RUSSELL AND TAVY CONSOLS MINES.—Whatever scepticism may have hitherto prevailed in the minds of individuals respecting the productiveness of mineral veins in depth, in the mines of the Tavistock district, beyond the celebrated Devon Great Consols and Bedford United, such unbelief must now be dispelled by the circumstances and facts being realised from the recent discoveries in East Russell and Tavy Consols, proving that mining is not altogether unprofitable, when a judicious and economical mode of operation is carried out, and the lodes developed to a reasonable depth. Such is the case of these two promising adventures, which present unusual prospects of immediately becoming profitable to the fortunate shareholders, whose patience has been well tried, and deserving of a rich reward. This should stimulate others interested in the locality to follow their example, there being several promising mines in close proximity to the above. The discoveries made have already advanced the value of East Russell to 80,000/-, and in demand. Tavy Consols are also likely to advance considerably during the next three months, the lode being worth 4 to 5 tons per fm., and the mine sank 90 fms., with water-power to continue to the 150, and every description of machinery more complete, which has cost upwards of 25,000/-.

The next sampling, in March, will be at least 100 tons of copper ore.—South Lady Bertha: A discovery is reported in this level, which is still a further proof of the productiveness of the district.

SOUTH LADY BERTHA.—The winze has been holed between the 30 and 40; there is a good brand of good quality ore in the winze.

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engine would not go to work before Saturday last, I am now glad to state that the breakage which took place in the 14 on Wednesday, February 9, was repaired, and the engine went to work on Friday last, the 11th inst. The water rose to the back of the 24 fathom level, and it is feared that it will not be in fork again to the bottom for some weeks to come.

WHEAL CONSOLIDATED MINES.—The discovery in the shaft made last week still continues, and assumes such importance that the secretary has deemed it fit to issue a note to the following effect, addressed to each shareholder:—"I have received a letter from Capt. Taylor, which is so important that the directors deem it advisable to hand you a copy of it:—Our men in cutting down the engine-shaft have cut into what appears to be a strong branch of tin. They have this evening brought up some splendid stones; I never saw better, the green and diamonds are so very large. It is about 5 fms. below the 6 fm. level. It appears at present we are abundant on the surface. From the system of unduly praising the merits of young

Mining Correspondence.

BRITISH MINES.

ABBEY CONSOLS.—J. Trewin, Feb. 19: The lode in the 20, west of the eastern engine-shaft, is much the same for lead, and has the same encouraging appearance as last reported. The lode in the east end has met with no particular change during the past week. The stopes in back of the 10, west of the eastern engine-shaft, are worth 7 cwt. of lead per fm. We have cut through the lode in the cross-cut in the 20, at the western engine-shaft; it is yielding good stones of lead ore; the men are put to drive on its course both east and west. The stopes in bottom of the 10 are worth 7 cwt. of lead per fm. The stopes east of the rise are worth 10 cwt. of lead per fm. We are dividing and casing the eastern shaft from the 10 to the 20, so as to draw the stuff with the large wheel, instead of doing it by manual labour.

ANGARBACK CONSOLS.—J. Barratt, Feb. 22: The shaftmen at Cox's engine in cutting plat at the 24 discovered the north wall of a large lode bearing east and west, and dipping north, composed of quartz and mastic, with occasional spots of lead ore; they have cut into it several feet, but have not obtained the south wall; they have commenced a cross-cut south, and I expect will soon intersect the south part, then I shall be able more fully to speak of its appearance and value. In the western end at the 12 the old caunter lode is promising; in the north side of the same end we have pricked Eaton's lode, immediately west of the junction. Considerable water is flowing from the lode, and some excellent stones of yellow copper ore have been taken from it to-day, but not enough has been opened to report fully on its value, but in my next I shall be in a position to do so. In the same level, Coombe's lode in the end east of Cox's engine-shaft is 3 ft. wide, containing a small horse of killas, flookan, mastic, and quartz; this lode has a very kindly appearance.

ASHBURTON UNITED.—W. Hosking, Feb. 24: The lode in the bottom end, east of engine-shaft, is about 1½ foot wide, and produces some good work for tin; the same remark will apply to the lode in the western end. The pitches in the backs of this level, both east and west, are turning out a fair quantity of ore. In clearing a cross-cut still further north at the bottom of the engine-shaft we have met with the north lode worked on in the levels above, which is about 15 in. wide, and produces some good tin. I have set the backs to stope on tribute, where the men are breaking good work. The clearing of the 45 east is going on well, and I expect in a few fathoms more to reach the end; I have set a pitch at the back of this level to four men, at 9 in. in 17. In the 35 I have set a cross-cut to be cleared and secured to see the north lodes reported on in the levels below, the first of which I anticipate will be soon met with. The clearing of the 25, east of Parry's shaft, is going on satisfactorily. I have set a cross-cut to be driven north in this level, which is 55 fathoms from surface, to intersect the Bram middle lode, which is the present main lode at the bottom of the engine-shaft; this lode has not been seen anywhere in the mine excepting in the 35, 45, and 55 for a few fathoms in length at the engine-shaft, at each of which points it has been found to be valuable. In every other part of the mine it is, of course, in whole ground; if it be found valuable, therefore, in this cross-cut, which I have every reason to believe it will be, it would be a most important addition to the value of the mine. The pitch in the back of the adit level, west of Parry's shaft, on Beams south lode, is turning out work of fair quality. The pitches in the back of adit, on Union lode, east of Teague's shaft, continue to turn out a fair quantity of ore. We shall send away another batch of tin on Saturday next, computed nearly 7 tons.

BARF.—J. Frank, Feb. 23: The prospects here are daily improving, and I hope ere long to report a course of ore in the cross-cut from Laidlaw's level. In Lowden's workings the men are forcing on the work with all speed; there is a stream of water as big as a man gushing out of the end. The winze is now cleared, and there is a good lode in the bottom. This mine is beginning to show itself, and the shareholders will soon have a mine of considerable value.

BALLYVIRGIN.—D. Macdonald, R. Fellow, Feb. 17: No 2 stope is worth 15 cwt. of lead and 6 tons of mastic per square fathom. The underhand stope is worth 15 cwt. of rich copper and 3 tons of mastic, with stones of lead, per square fathom. The bargain set in the south stope to take down a portion of the lode left standing on the east footwall is completed, and we have this day set a fresh bargain to rise and stope to four men, at 77, per cubic fathom; the lode is worth 10 cwt. of lead and 7 tons of coppery mastic per square fathom. The Bog shaft is completed down to the 10 fm. level; we now propose to drive on the course of the gossan lode, and clear out No. 2 winze. The lode in the east side of the shaft is 4 feet wide, and composed of sulphur, gossan, copper ore, and malleable copper; we cannot put any value upon it till we see more of it. We are employed in dressing the 10 tons of halverns crushed last week, to ascertain how much lead they will yield. We have put 23 cwt. of lead and 12 tons of mastic to pile, and prepared for the crusher 1 ton of first crop lead.

BEDFORD CONSOLS.—J. Mitchell, Feb. 24: The lode in the middle adit level assumes a more promising appearance than it has for some time past; it is producing good stones of ore, and the horse of killas appears to be wearing out fast; when we may reasonably expect a change for the better.

BEDFORD UNITED.—J. Phillips, Feb. 22: The lode in the 130 east is 3 feet wide, and is worth 3½ tons of ore per fm. The stopes in the 115 east are worth as follows—Paul's 3½, Jackson's 4, and Huggins' 4½ tons per fm. We are driving by the side of the lode in the 115 west. Millman's stopes, in back of the same, will yield from 4 to 5 tons per fathom. There is no alteration at the new engine-shaft. The lode in the 103 west is still worth 3½ tons per fathom. Warne's stopes, in the bottom of this level, are worth 3 tons per fm.

BENEATHWOOD.—J. Lean, Feb. 22: The engine-shaft is sunk 7 fms. below the 11, ground favourable for sinking.—North End: From the eastern side of the lode we have cross-cut 15 ft., no western wall yet, but after driving about 8 ft. we intersected a coarse of light porphyry, 3 ft. wide, containing branches of mastic and lead, and will yield of latter ½ ton to the fm.—South End: We have had 2 or 3 ft. disordered ground, but now in the back (which is in accordance with the usual dip of the shoots of ore) the lode is assuming its general character, and opening with a mixture of lead and mastic 14 in. wide, and it is likely, from the indications presented, there is more lode still to the west. I have ordered the men to incline their end in this direction.

—Feb. 22: The lode in both the ends have improved since yesterday.

BOILING WELL.—J. Delbridge, Feb. 19: In the present week the sumptuous are engaged casing and dividing the shaft from the 40 to the 72; we hope in the coming week to complete the whole of it. In the 60 west the lode is 3 ft. wide, unproductive. In the 50 west the lode is 5 ft. wide, spotted with lead ore. In the 40 winze, towards the 50, the lode is 4 ft. wide, stones of copper ore, mastic, lead, and blends. In the 50 rise, west of Austin's, tributary ground. At Austin's shaft the ground is spare for sinking. In the 40, east of Austin's, the lode is small and poor. In the 20, east of King's, the lode is 1 ft. wide, good work for lead. In the 20, west of Austin's, the lode is 3 ft. wide, tribute ground. At Roberts's shaft the lode is 1 ft. wide, prian, peach, and other things much the same as usual.

BULLER AND BASSET UNITED.—G. Reynolds, Feb. 21: The shaftmen have commenced to sink the shaft below the 65 with all speed; no lode taken down as yet; the appearance of the lode now being laid open in the 65 east and west is very encouraging indeed; it is from 3 to 4 ft. wide, composed of fluor-spar, mixed with mastic, and spotted with rich ore throughout, and its character at present warrants success in depth. The pitwork is in good order, therefore we shall be able to sink the shaft without any hindrance, and the engine is working well.

BWLCH CONSOLS.—S. Northey, Feb. 18: The lode in the 70 west is a little improved since last reported. The lode in the stope in the back of the 70, west of winze, is improved, worth 1 ton per fm. The lode in the stope east of winze is worth 14 cwt. per fm. No alteration in the 60 west since I last reported. The stope in the back of the 60 is not looking quite so well, worth for lead 4 cwt. per fm. The lode in the 40 east is 2 ft. wide, with a mixture of lead. Old Mine: The men are getting on well in repairing and sinking the shaft. We have commenced to drive the 50 east. I will give you more particulars in my next report respecting this level, as we have not opened sufficient to say much about it.

CAMBORNE CONSOLS.—W. Roberts, Feb. 22: In the 50 cross-cut no lode can lately. The winze sinking in the 20 is progressing favourably; lode 1 ft. wide, with occasional stones of ore. The tribute pitch in the back of the 20 is turning out tolerably well.

CAMBORNE VEAN.—J. Curtis, J. E. Jones, N. Clymo, Feb. 22: Since our last report we have discovered a lode in the 35. This level was driven on the engine lode, and for many years turned out well; for some time past nothing was done there, but our attention a month ago was drawn to a branch springing off to the north side about 12 fms. from our eastern shaft, and we put two men to drive on it, and every day found it improving, and have now put on four men; we have driven about 7 ft., and the lode at present is about 1½ ft. wide, and worth 20f. per fm. From appearances in the level below and the upper levels we are justified in saying this is a lode never yet touched, and rising from the 106 to surface. There is nothing new at bottom of the mine to report. The new shaft we have got in course, and are working with all speed.

CARDIGAN CONSOLS.—J. Sanders, Feb. 19: There is no change to notice in any of the cross-cuts since last report. The lode in the 10 fm. level, east of Pen-y-Wich, on the south part, is not so good as when last reported, yielding at present from 12 to 15 cwt. of ore per fm. The 10 west is suspended for the present, and the men put to drive a cross-cut north in the 20 fm. level, about 70 fms. west of the engine-shaft; at this point the lode is driven on the south part of the lode, which is unproductive; here also there are several strings or branches going off to the north, which are very likely to make the north part of the lode the most productive, and in order to prove it the above cross-cut has been set to drive by four men, at 9t. per fm. There are also two men put to drive on a north branch of the lode in the 20 fm. level, 45 fms. east of engine-shaft; set to drive at 6t. per fm. The lode in the tribute pitch in the back of the 20 west has not been taken down for the week. I regret to say that I have not succeeded in setting any more tribute pitches for the week.

CATHERINE AND JANE CONSOLS.—E. Harry: The lode in the deep adit level is about 1 ft. wide, at present poor for lead; but agreeably with the ground passed through in the level above, we may expect this level to become productive again shortly. The stopes south-east of No. 5 winze are looking very well; the lode being 2 ft. wide, worth 10 cwt. of good ore per fathom; I have removed the men from the stopes north-west of No. 4 winze to stope south-east of said winze; the lode here is 2½ ft. wide, composed of spar, sulphur, blends and lead, producing of the latter 6 cwt. to the fm. In the middle adit end the lode is 15 in. wide, yielding stones of ore occasionally; the stope in back of this level will produce an average from 6 to 6½ cwt. per fm. The winze sinking in the 10 fm. level, west of Pen-y-Wich, is down about 5 fms., lode small and unproductive. As we have not seen anything of the hanging wall of the lode since we commenced sinking I have thought it advisable previous to sinking deeper to cut in a few feet in the north side of the winze, to see if we can meet it. In our dressing department we are progressing favourably, there are about 10 tons of lead clean, and should the weather prove favourable we shall have no difficulty in getting 20 tons ready for the market in the course of the next fortnight.

CLARA SILVER-LEAD.—S. Trevethan, Feb. 23: We have no particular alteration to notice in the appearance of the mine since my last report. The lode in the 20, east from cross-cut, is still in disordered ground, and rather poor. The lode in the back of the 10, east of Bryn-pica's, is 7 ft. wide, yielding 120f. per fm. No. 2 stopes are worth 12 cwt. per fm. No. 3 stopes are worth 12 cwt. per fm. Other things are looking as usual.

COLLACOMBE.—S. Mitchell, Feb. 22: During the last week the rise in the 84 west has been put up 2 fathoms, and the lode is still worth 2 tons to the rich ore per fathom for the length of the rise (8 feet). There is no alteration to notice in any other part. We hope to sample about 200 tons of good ore on Friday.

CORNWALL GREAT CONSOLIDATED.—William Rowe: Latchley: We are still progressing with the 60s, east and west on the course of Pearn's lode, also west on Stephen's lode. I would remark that this lode is still disordered by the influence of the flookan, bét, judging from the water issuing so freely from it, I am expecting an improvement to take place shortly. The 60 ends, on Pearn's lode, are producing occasional stones of copper ore, and the western end here is presenting a more promising character than it has for some fathoms. The lode west of the flookan in the 40 is about 20 inches wide, composed of capel and mastic, impregnated with yellow copper ore, embedded in

congenital strata. The lode in the back of the 20 is producing some good copper ore.—South Wheal Marie: We are still proceeding with the winze east of engine-shaft in the 25; the lode is 4 feet wide, which will not be taken down before the said winze is communicated to the back of the 40; the winze is now down about 5 fms. I expect by the latter part of next week the lode will be intersected in the 50 cross-cut, north of the engine-shaft; I am much pleased with the character of the stratum here, it being better than I have hitherto seen in either of the levels above. The lode in the 40 end, east of engine-shaft, is yielding some good stones of copper ore, and is presenting a more promising feature for minerals than when we commenced driving it.

CUMBERLAND BLACK LEAD.—J. Dixon, Feb. 24: Since my last report we have dressed up about 50 lbs. of fine wad, worth 40s. per lb. Williams' pipe continues very wady and promising. Hastings' pipe is looking well for a large body of wad, and the result, I have no doubt, will be very gratifying. We are progressing favourably with the trial on the lead ore vein. I thought it best to prove this at a great depth of the vein, as we could with a short cut, the ground being favourable. It think it probable that it will turn out to be a most valuable mine.

CWM SEBON.—John Boundy, Feb. 19: There is no material alteration in the lode to notice in either of the 70 ends since last reported on; the lode in the stope in the back of this level, west of the engine-shaft, is about the same in value as was last reported. No lode has been taken down in the 60 east during the week; the lode in the stope over the back of this level remains much the same in value as for some time past. The lode in the 30, driving east from cross-cut, on the north side, is at present 3 feet wide, yielding branches of lead throughout, and looking promising. The ground in the 20 fm. level cross-cut south is more easy for progress than it has hitherto been, but nothing of importance has been met with during the week; there is still water coming from the vein, as we could with a short cut, the ground being favourable. It think it probable that it will turn out to be a most valuable mine.

CUMBERLAND BLACK LEAD.—J. Dixon, Feb. 24: Since my last report we have dressed up about 50 lbs. of fine wad, worth 40s. per lb. Williams' pipe continues very wady and promising. Hastings' pipe is looking well for a large body of wad, and the result, I have no doubt, will be very gratifying. We are progressing favourably with the trial on the lead ore vein. I thought it best to prove this at a great depth of the vein, as we could with a short cut, the ground being favourable. It think it probable that it will turn out to be a most valuable mine.

GONAMENA.—R. Pascoe, W. George, Feb. 23: In taking down the lode in the 80 east, on Sarah's, we find it smaller than when last reported, it is now about 1 ft. wide, containing good stones of ore. The stope in the back of this level is still worth 3 tons of ore per fathom. The lode in the 70 fm. level east is about 6 in. wide, saving work.

The stope below this level have been set on tribute, to two men, at 10s. in 17. The lode in the 55 east is much as last reported. Gilpin's lode in the 38 east is 1 ft. wide, still producing good saving work, but the ground is hard and troublesome for driving, consequently our progress is slow. We have set a pitch from the winze below this level to four men, at 6s. 8d. in 17. The 55 is commenced under the shoot of ore, but from the dip being east we expect to meet with it in driving a few fathoms; here the ground is also hard. The lode in the 70 is about 1 ft. wide, producing a little ore, but nothing to value. The 90 east is progressing satisfactorily.

GREAT CARADON.—T. C. Harper, Feb. 23: We are progressing with our different operations very favourably. The ground at the engine-shaft continues easy for sinking—set to six men, 7t. per fm. The masons are also getting on well with the smiths' and carpenters' shops. I hope to see the walls up in another week. I have seen the engineer, Mr. William Matthews, and have appointed to meet him on the mine early in the ensuing week, to mark out the engine-shaft.

GREAT ONSLOW CONSOLS.—G. Hickard, Feb. 23: No lode has been taken down in the 87 west since last report. The ground by the side of the same has improved for driving through. There is no change to notice in the lode in the 107 east. In the 107 west the ground by the side of the lode is somewhat harder.

GREAT SOUTH TOLGUSA.—John Daw, Feb. 23: The lode at Lyle's shaft is 2½ ft. wide, producing a little copper ore. In the 90, east of Lyle's shaft, the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 1 ton per fm. In the 70 the lode is a little disordered, and split into branches, producing 2 tons per fm. The lode in the winze sinking below this level is 1 ft. wide, producing ½ ton per fathom. The stops and pitches are looking well.

GREAT TREGUNE CONSOLS.—J. Sparge, Feb. 24: There is no material alteration in this mine since my last. The south shaft in the 70 is still continuing very good.

GREAT WHEAL ALFRED.—M. W. Mitchell, W. Buglehole, W. Arthur, Feb. 19: We have commenced driving the 200, east and west on Copper-house shaft; the lode in the former end is from 7 to 8 feet wide, producing a 100f. yellow ore; the lode in the latter end is 7 ft. wide, carrying a branch of yellow ore on the south wall about 8 in. wide. The lode being of such inimitable size, we purpose driving on the north part, which is the most favourable for driving, until we get a fathom or two from the shaft, when we shall cut through it; it is now 18 in. wide, producing stones of yellow ore. The lode in the 100 east is 3 ft. wide, of a very promising character, worth 5t. per fathom. In the 180 cross-cut we have intersected the south part of the lode, which is 2 feet wide, spotted with yellow ore, but not to value; we have commenced driving west on it. No change in the 170 or 180 west. Our sampling on Tuesday next will be about 200 tons of ore.

GREAT WHEAL BUSY.—J. Naracarrow, Feb. 19: The lode in the 50 west is intersected by a cross-course, apparently about 15 in. wide; its bearing is nearly north and south; it is rather porous, but has not increased the water; it contains some good work for tin; of this we hope to say more by the end of next week. The lode in the 90 is 6½ ft. wide, and is worth 55t. per fathom for copper. In the bottoms beyond the 80, before this end, our progress in clearing is slow, the water being very quick, but I think this cannot be of long continuance. The lode in the 100 east is 2 ft. wide, and worth 20t. per fathom. The 100 west will produce good work for tin; here the ventilation has considerably improved, in consequence of the rise behind this end being hoisted to the 90. Offord's shaftmen have commenced cutting a plat in the 100. At Fielding's shaft we have made more settled, and we hope an improvement will soon take place. In the 110 east the lode seems getting more settled, and we hope an improvement will soon take place. In the 110 west the lode is 2 ft. wide, worth 7t. per fathom. In the 110 west the lode is 16 fms. below the shaft adit. The ladders for taking the water to the engine pool are nearly completed.

GREAT WHEAL MARTHA.—W. Nottie, Feb. 25: Everything is progressing satisfactorily, and as we shall next week extend our operations, I hope soon to report some improvements.

GREAT WHEAL VOR UNITED.—Thos. Gill, Feb. 23: Wheal Metal: The engine-shaft sinking below the 129, on Metal lode, is about 2½ ft. wide, yielding good stones of tin ore. The 122, driving west of the engine-shaft, on Metal lode, is from 1½ to 2 feet wide, yielding stones of tin ore; I expect this will improve shortly. The 122, driving east of the engine-shaft, on Metal lode, is from 7 to 8 feet wide, producing stones of tin ore. We have been obliged to suspend the sinking of the winze in bottom of the 90 on Schneider's lode, before this end, our progress in clearing is slow, the water being very quick, but I think this cannot be of long continuance. The lode in the 100 west will produce good work for tin; here the ventilation has considerably improved, in consequence of the rise behind this end being hoisted to the 90. Offord's shaftmen have commenced cutting a plat in the 100. At Fielding's shaft we have made more settled, and we hope an improvement will soon take place. In the 110 east the lode is 2 ft. wide, worth 7t. per fathom. In the 110 west the lode is 16 fms. below the shaft adit. The ladders for taking the water to the engine pool are nearly completed.

GROSVENOR.—J. Lloyd, Feb. 21: The whitney shaft is going down quicker than expected; the ground in it for the last 4 or 5 yards is rock, but not quite solid, and it will continue as it is now it will save much in the expense of timber and boards. The cross-cut has not gone far enough (14 ft.) to expect any alteration. I hope a few yards more driving on it will bring us to the bearing ground of the flat.

HARWOOD.—J. Race, Feb. 18: We have put up the rise in No. 2 vein near the top of the limestone, but I find nothing worth working there. The end going east is also unproductive at present. We have begun to rise in No. 1 cross vein, but have not got to the limestone, though I took one of the men from the vein to help me to rise. No alteration to note in the level this week.

HAWKMOOR.—J. Richards, Feb. 21: The lode in the 60 east is 2½ feet wide, composed of spar and capela, spotted with ore; set to six men, stent 6 ft., at 10t. per fm. The 60, west of great cross

LADY ELIZA.—J. Thomas : We are progressing with the deep adit, but the ground has been a little harder lately. Capt. M. Francis is expected in the neighbourhood shortly, to give instructions and directions for erecting the wheel at Gilvach.

LLYVERNOC UNITED.—J. Hughes, Feb. 21 : In the boundary level driving east we have this day cut into lead 4 in. solid, with several good strings beside in the lode; it is calculated at 2 tons of ore per fm. at least. In the other parts of the mine there is no change since my last report.

MOLLAND.—Thos. Bennett, Feb. 23 : The lode in the 32 west is split up in branches, producing stones of ore occasionally. To all appearance, however, these branches will fall together in case of driving. In the same level east the lode is very large, producing 1½ ton of ore per fm. The men having cut through to the north wall, the end at this point is 6 ft. wide, and according to the look and run of the lode the quantity of water which flows from it, and the direction from which it comes, I am inclined to think that either a lode coming in from the north has formed a junction with the one in which we have driven the level, or else the lode has been thrown north by the slide, the latter, however, is a very rare case. As this is of great importance to ascertain, I would recommend a cross-cut to be driven north about 6 or 7 fms. from the end, and if it is a lode it will be cut in course of driving 3 fms. The winze from the 20 to the 32 having been completed the men are stopping the back of the latter level, where the lode is producing 1½ ton of ore per fm. Lode in the 20 east poor.

NANTEOS AND PENRHIW.—H. Boundy, Feb. 22 : In consequence of the 20 east and rise over this level being poor for some time we have suspended both the rising and driving of them for the present, and put the men to stop in bottom of the same level west. In the 30 cross-cut, east of Bwicwgwy, we have just passed through another branch, containing some good stones of ore. Other cross-cuts are progressing favourably. In the 30 east, on north lode, the lode is worth from 8 to 10 cts. per fathom. No lode has been taken down in the end west during the past week, but when last taken down it was poor. The rise over this level is worth 10 cts. of ore per fathom ; the tribute without change to notice. At Eystumant deep adit, driving east, the lode is small and poor ; the step over this level for 4 fms. in length, will yield 12 cts. of ore per fathom. We have cleared the staff and made the necessary preparations, so as to get 10 fms. above Reeve's level ; but the old mine is very full of stuff, and the levels seem together in many places. The surface operations are being pushed on as fast as possible, but the recent wet weather has very much impeded our progress.

NEW TRELEIGH CONSOLS.—Feb. 23 : In the 40, west of great cross-course, a good branch of yellow copper ore was cut last night. Against this cross-course Wheal Mary, the adjoining mine, made all its riches.

NORTH DOWNS.—J. Grenfell, Feb. 20 : The 40, east of engine-shaft, is progressing most satisfactorily, and the lode is forming itself more regular. The 30, east of engine-shaft, is producing good stones of ore, but not in sufficient quantities to value. The same remarks apply to the sump-winze sinking below this level on the north part of the lode. The 20 east of Bennett's shaft, or north lode, is still very promising ; lode about 18 inches wide, worth full 14 cts. per fathom. In the winze sinking below the 10, on this lode, the lode has lately been disturbed by a floor of spar ; this is, however, wearing out, and the lode is again improving. The 20 driving west of cross-cut, on south lode, is producing stones of ore. The end driving west of cross-cut, on lode, in the same level, is worth 15 cts. per fathom, and opening good tribute ground. All other bargains and pitches in the mine are just as when last reported.

NORTH GREAT WORK.—J. Muffett, Feb. 21 : Since my last report we have collared up a whin-shant, and he's been underground in the mine to the 8 fm. level under the shallow adit, which is about 26 fms. from the surface ; this shaft is full of rubbish to within 2 fathoms of the 8. East of this shaft, below the latter level, we found a winze sink and a lead-road standing, but a great quantity of water in it ; the best part of the lode, 8½ fm. as far as we have seen, is worked away. We have not found the end of either level yet, but hope to do so in a day or two. On clearing the deep adit we got through the 8 fm. mentioned before, and are now so far in the adit that we have to draw the stuff to take for fully 20 fathoms.

NO. 31 LAXNEY.—J. Horsley, Feb. 19 : Our 27 fm. level south looks very well today, the lead is coming down to the sole more than it was ; the vein is mixed throughout very nicely with lead and a little jack, and continues about 2 ft. wide. The vein in the 27 end north does not look so well as it did, I think we are coming to a nip, but I hope it will not be long until we get a change again. We have taking more vein of both sides in the 12 end south ; we have a little lead on the lying side, and some lead and jack on the hanging still, but not so much as we have had. The vein is taking a turn on the hanging again, not coming towards the lying as much as it was, but it may come back again shortly. Our headings continue about the same, and we are getting a little lead out of them still.

NORTH MINERA.—T. Lester, Feb. 24 : The character of the ground in the cross-cut, west from Thomas's level, continues much the same, being very hard and spare for driving. The cross-cut east is progressing favourably, set at 62s. 6d. per fm. We hope in a few fathoms to intersect the flat, which is so productive 9 fms. south of ditto, which will be some good tribute ground. Pugh's level is as last reported, occasionally meeting with small branches of lead ore. The Bridge level is for the present suspended, and the men put to open the mouth of Pugh's, which will much facilitate the delivery of the stuff. The ground in Dunn's level is more solid than it was, principally limestone.

NORTH WHEAL TRELAWNY.—H. Hodge, Feb. 24 : The lode in the 40, south of the shaft, is 9 in. wide, producing 3 cts. of lead per fm., and from its appearance we daily expect an improvement. The lode in the rise in the back of this level is 1 ft. wide, producing 5 cts. of lead per fm.

OLD TOLGUS UNITED.—G. Reynolds, Feb. 21 : The lode in the shaft is 1 ft. wide, producing stones of ore and muriatic. The ground in the 42 cross-cut is favourable, with promising indications of intersecting a productive lode soon ; it is now extended 19 fms. from the engine-shaft. The south lode, in the 32 west, is presenting a more promising appearance, being 18 in. wide, composed of copper ore, muriatic, and blende, throughout a very congenial spar, and we look for a further improvement at this point daily. The lode in the rise in back of this level is in two parts ; the south part is 18 in. wide, producing good stones of copper ore, and 1 ton of blonde per fm. ; the north part is not taken down as yet ; the east end on this lode is suspended, being near the boundary. The engine lode, going west in the 42 is improving in its appearance, and we are forcing on this lode, by six men, towards the junction of lodes gone down in the 32, where good results may reasonably be expected. We are also driving a cross-cut south from the caunter in the 32, which will lay open several branches, and by extending the same about 10 fms. we shall cut the south lode, a distance of about 60 fms. west of engine-shaft, which will direct our future operations. We have sampled 36 tons of blonde, and expect the price daily ; and next week we hope to sample nearly 40 tons of copper ore.

PEDNS-AN-DREAS UNITED.—J. Carpenter, T. Delbridge, Feb. 19 : The 100 east and west, on engine lode, is producing stamping work of low quality. In the 90 west, on Skinner's and engine lodes, the ends are progressing satisfactorily, yielding low priced stamping work. The new lode in the 55 east is at present in disordered ground, in consequence of a north and south cross branch ; the ground is much easier for driving. In the south cross-cut in the 55, driving on the cross-course, we have cut a branch, about 4 in. wide, in the past week, letting out a quantity of water, at present unproductive. In the south cross-cut, at Bragg's, we have also cut a branch, about 6 in. wide, unproductive. We purpose to continue driving south on each of these cross-courses until we prove the lodes known to run through our south ground. On the whole, our tribute continues much the same as for some time past.

PENDEEN CONSOLS.—W. Eddy, J. Cartwheel, Feb. 19 : The engine-shaft is 10 feet 6 in. below the 94 ; lode 6 in. wide, and poor. The 94 is extended 14 ft. 6 in. north since last setting ; lode 18 in. wide, worth 2 tons of ore per fm. The winze below the 82 fm. level, 30 fms. north of shaft, is sunk 17 ft. 6 in. ; no lode taken down. The 82 north is extended 25 ft. 6 in. ; lode 3 ft. wide, producing 4 tons of ore per fm. In the stoves over the 82, north of No. 1 winze, the lode is 16 in. wide, yielding 2 tons of ore per fm. The 70 is extended 22 ft. ; a kindly lode, 18 in. wide, with copper ore, but not to value. In the tribute pitch below the 70, north and south of No. 2 winze, the lode is now yielding 4 tons of ore per fm. In the tribute pitch in back of the 70 the lode is 15 inches wide, yielding 2½ tons of ore per fm. We have 120 tons of copper ore at surface, of the same quality as our last sampling.

PENHALLS.—M. Edwards, Feb. 19 : A further improvement has taken place in the lode at the engine-shaft ; it will now produce 1 ton of tin, or say worth 80c. per fathom for the length of shaft (12 ft.). I have had a sample of tin assayed from it, and it made a produce of 14½ standard 124 ; it ranks as best fine tin, and worth at present price 80s. 12s. 6d. per ton. There are still indications of a further improvement shortly. About 23 fms. have now been cleared in the 10 west, but we have not yet got through the run or crush of stuff which came down from the back, so that the level is still full of stuff before us. We are drawing it to surface, and it will do well to stamp. On the surface we are progressing with the stamps as rapidly as possible, and hope to get it ready to work in about three weeks more ; but I think it will be best to put two men and two boys to drive the lobby level, as we shall not have a sufficient supply of water to keep the stamps constantly going until that level is communicated to the lobby shaft. It will not cost more than 12d. per month for three or four months, and the advantages will be great to the company when completed.

PENKILL SILVER-LEAD.—J. Jenkins, Feb. 22 : Our old stope on Bob's lode continues more or less the same, full of branches of lead for about 6 ft. wide—bundles from ½ in. big to 3 or 4 inches, which may be termed solid ; we have a pile of ore-stuff broken from this stope. We have had a good bunch of ore on Jeffery's lode since last week, but it did not look quite so well yesterday as for some days previous ; it appears there was a kind of slide came in and divided the lode, but I have no doubt the ore will soon make again. Owen's lode continues nearly the same : the end is full of branches of lead, sometimes we have them 1 or 2 inches big, solid, and promising to make a good bunch of ore. On the whole, the mine is equally as good, and I may say a little improved since this day week. In the beginning of another week, if the weather permits, we shall be obliged to draw about 200 kibbles, otherwise we shall be entirely blocked up.

PRIDEAUX WOOD.—F. Gill, P. Rich, Feb. 21 : We have resumed the sinking of Kendall's shaft under the 64 ; the lode is 3 feet wide, and of a promising character. In the 51, east of Kendall's shaft, on Kendall's lode, the lode is 1 ft. wide, at present poor, but letting out a great quantity of water. In the adit east of Trefry's shaft, on the south part of Kendall's lode, the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing spots of copper ore, and is likely to improve as we drive east. We have also resumed the driving of the adit end on the north lode, which is 1 ft. wide, producing saying work for copper ore. We have commenced sinking Trefry's shaft under the adit ; the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing saving work for copper ore. In the 10, above the adit, east of Trefry's shaft, on Kendall's lode, the lode is 3 feet wide, and the very promising, containing stones of copper ore. The other parts of the mine are much the same as last reported.

RAVEN ROCK.—S. Cook : Our operations at this mine since October last have been confined to driving and stopping, west of Jenkins' winze, about 5 fms. above the back of the 20. Since we commenced to drive the lode is greatly improved ; and in the last six weeks four men and four boys drove and stopped 13 fms. of ground, and raised 144 tons of tinstuff, producing 2 tons of tin, worth 139c., which left a good profit on the working expenses. A little alteration in the dressing-floors, and the putting in of a tramroad in the level, would enable us to work the mine at a much cheaper rate. The lode now laid open for 10 or 12 fms. in length is worth 9d. per fm., and can be stopped at 3f. We sold on the 21st last, 2 tons 10 cwt. 0 qr. 17 lbs. of tin, which realised 169s. 9s. 3d. I believe that if this mine were worked on a larger scale it would leave a handsome profit to the adventurers on the tin alone. The prospects for copper are very good in depth.

REDMOOR.—T. Taylor, Feb. 21 : During the past month we have driven the 60 east on Kelly Bray lode 4 ft. 5 in. ; the lode is about 4 feet wide, containing spots of ore, but chiefly composed of quartz and muriatic. At Kelly Bray Mine they have a good lode coming towards us, therefore we have put six men to drive this end ; set at 11s. per fm. In the 80 east, on Kelly Bray lode, we have reached the great cross-course ; sometime since I proposed to cross-cut north in this level, to intersect a north part of the lode, but from recent measurement I think it advisable to cross-cut at the 90 instead of the 80 ;

I have, therefore, set 6 ft. to two men, at 8f. We have also driven the 80 west, on Kelly Bray lode, 7 fms. 2 ft. ; throughout this drivage the lode has varied in size from 1 to 4 ft. in width ; in the present end the lode is 4 ft. wide, letting out a little water, and containing a quantity of prian, muriatic, and blende. On the whole, I consider it a promising lode ; this is the farthest point west on this lode, and should we find anything worth while, which is not at all unlikely, we shall then quickly repay this outlay ; set to four men, at 4f. 10s. per fm. We have driven the 90 east, on Kelly Bray lode, 1 fm. 0 ft. 9 in. ; we have also put six men in this end, to push it as fast as possible towards the grey ground in Kelly Bray ; the lode in the present end is about 15 in. wide ; set at 7f. per fm.—Tribute Settings : Three pitches, at 16s. in 11 ft. for lead only. During the past month we have raised about 3 tons of No. 1 and 3 tons of No. 2 lead ore, which will be sold this week.

ROUND HILL.—A. Waters : The pitwork is in order, and the casing and dividing shaft completed to bottom, so that the 62 will now be driven north and south of shaft without interruption. The 52 is driven north of shaft about 3 fms., the lode in the present end is 3 feet wide, yielding good stones of ore, and showing more favourable indications than did the lode in the 40 at the same distance from the shaft. In the slope in back of the 52, south of Jones's winze, the lode is 3 feet wide, worth 30 cts. of lead ore per fm. The stopes in the said level, north of winze, will be resumed next week. In the 30, driving south of engine-shaft, the lode is 3 feet wide, yielding stones of ore, of a promising character. Tittney's slopes, in back of the 40 north, are not looking so well as when last reported. The pitch in bottom of the 30, south of shaft, on the counter lode, is looking well, but the others are without change to notice.

SITHNEY WHEAL BULLER.—T. Gill, W. Teague, Jun., A. Treloar, Feb. 23 : The 100, level, driving east of the north engine-shaft, the Metal lode, is 18 in. wide, producing good stones of tin ore, and is a very promising lode. The 70 fm. level, driving east of the north engine-shaft, on Metal lode, is small, and poor for mineral. The diagonal shaft is sunk about 6 fms. below the 40 fm. level.

SORTRIDGE CONSOLS.—R. Jackson, Feb. 24 : At Hitchins's engine-shaft, sinking below the 86, the lode is 2 feet wide, composed of spar, muriatic, capel, and a little ore.

SOUTH BULLER AND WEST PENSTRUTHAL.—G. Reynolds, Feb. 21 : We have not cut the lode as yet, but expect to do so daily ; much water is flowing from the present end, and the ground is not so bad for driving ; as soon as we cut the same I will at once write to you.

SOUTH CARDON WHEAL HOOPER.—Wm. C. Cock, Feb. 19 : We have taken down the lode in the 62 east on No. 3 lode ; the lode is of a similar character as when last taken down. The 62 cross-cut north is as last reported. The shaftmen are making fair progress with their work.

SOUTH DOLCOATH AND CARNARTHEN CONSOLS.—Wm. Roberts, Feb. 22 : In the 70 cross-cut south the men have had the misfortune to lose some fathoms of the lode in the consequence of getting too near the great cross-course. The 50 cross-cut north is progressing favourably, and so is the adit driving south from Brass Valley. About 10 tons of ore will be sampled to-morrow.

SOUTH LADY BERTHA.—Wm. Goss, R. Unsworth, Feb. 24 : In the 40, driving south, the lode continues about 3 ft. wide, containing fluor-spur, flookan, and beautiful spots of copper and lead ore. We think we are near an east and west lode. We have holed the winze from the 30 to the 40, and are securing the ground, it being partly on the cross-course, and a new lode, in which we have a good branch of very rich ore ; you will judge of the quality from the specimen sent. Upon this winze being complete we will sink on the course of the lode, and thus prove its value in depth. During this operation tribute pitches will be set in the 40. In Mark's winze, below the adit level, the lode has yet been met with. There is no change to notice in any other part of the mine since last report.

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SOUTH WHEEL BULLER BETSY.—C. Bartle, Feb. 22 : The whin-shant will be complete by Thursday night. In the cross-cut, east of Carpenter's shaft, the end is still letting out water ; ground much the same as when last reported. In shoaling to the east of this end we have opened on a large adit about 35 fms. to the east of the end underlying this lode. According to the underlay we have about 15 fms. more to drive to intersect this lode at a depth of 6 fms. Other parts of the mine much as when last reported.

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SOUTH WHEEL BULLER BETSY.—C. Bartle,

WHEAL TRELLAWNY.—W. Bryant, W. Jenkin, T. Granville, Feb. 24: Smith's engine-shaft is sunk 4 fms., 2 ft. under the lode. The lode in the 152, north of the shaft, is 2½ ft. wide, worth 10s. per fm.; in the same level south it is 3½ ft. wide, worth 5s. per fm. In the 142 north it is 2 ft. wide, worth 12s. per fm.; in the same level south it is 2 ft. wide, worth 10s. per fm. In the 82, north of Chippindale's shaft, it is 3 ft. wide, worth 7s. per fm. In the 120, north of Chippindale's, it is 2 ft. wide, worth 8s. per fm.—South Mine: We have cut through the lode in the 122 at Trellawny's shaft; it is 3 ft. wide, unproductive. The lode in the 142, south of the shaft, is 2 ft. wide, worth 8s. per fm. In the 130 south it is 3 ft. wide, worth 7s. per fm. In the 107 north it is 3 ft. wide, worth 5s. per fm. The stops and pitches are much the same as when last reported. We sold, on the 19th inst. 75 tons (computed) of lead ore to Messrs. Sims, Williams, Neville, and Co., at 28s. 8s. per ton.

WHEAL TEHIDY.—J. Pope, Feb. 22: The 70 east, on the caunter lode, is 6 in. wide, producing stones of ore. The 60 east, on the caunter lode, will produce 2 tons of ore per fm.; the stopes in the back of the 60 will produce 1 ton of ore per fm. In the 60 cross-cut south nothing new since last reported. In the wings in the bottom of the 50 the lode is small and unproductive. In the wings in the bottom of the 60 the lode is 18 in. wide, producing 2 tons of ore per fm.; on account of the quickening of water we are compelled to suspend sinking for the present, but shall resume as soon as the water abates.

THE PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MR. J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S.

A suggestion having been made in the *Mining Journal* that some acknowledgment was due to Mr. Watson, for his able advocacy of the interests of British Mining during a period of nearly 20 years, the following gentlemen have formed themselves into a committee to arrange for the presentation to him of a suitable Testimonial:—

P. E. BLAKELEY, Esq., Director of Devon Great Consols
W. D. BOASE, Esq.
HYDE CLARKE, Esq., D.C.L.
S. W. DAUKES, Esq.
W. J. DUNFORD, Esq.

THOMAS FIELD, Esq.
C. HANCOCK, Esq.
JERIC HITCHINS, Esq.
R. MIDDLETON, Esq.
J. H. MURCHISON, Esq., F.G.S.
T. TAFFING, Esq.

TREASURERS: C. HANCOCK, Esq., 20, Tokenhouse-yard. R. MIDDLETON, Esq., 26, Fleet-street.

Communications from gentlemen desirous of co-operating with the committee to be addressed to J. H. Murchison, Esq., 117, Bishopsgate-street; and subscriptions, limited to 12. 1s., may be addressed to the Treasurers, which will be duly acknowledged in the *Mining Journal*.

Subscriptions already announced. £62 12 0
G. A. F. Cavendish Bentinck .. £1 1 0 T. Hancock .. £1 1 0
P. Watson .. 1 1 0 W. W. Mansell .. 1 1 0
E. J. C. .. 1 1 0 Joseph Procter .. 1 1 0
R. H. Pike .. 1 1 0 J. P. Marsh .. 1 1 0
H. Grylls .. 1 1 0 W. S. .. 1 1 0
Capt. E. Rowe .. 1 1 0 Jno. Trevethan .. 1 1 0

MINING SCHOOL IN SCOTLAND.—We are glad to learn that, under the auspices of Mr. James Merry, of Belladrum, and friends, an association is being formed to promote the education and training of persons engaged in the coal and iron districts of the West of Scotland. We shall be glad to report the progress of this movement to a successful result.

EAST WHEAL RUSSELL.—It is with much pleasure that we refer to the extraordinary discoveries at East Wheal Russell, alluded to in our City Article of this day, which are the most valuable that have been made in the Tavistock district since the discovery of Devon Great Consols, or in any district for a good many years. We sincerely congratulate all those concerned, and particularly those gentlemen who have steadily supported the mine through good and evil report. And we cannot omit to mention the names of two gentlemen to whom the highest credit is due for the part they have occupied in connection with this important concern. We believe it was in 1850 that Mr. J. H. Hitchins (singularly enough also the discoverer of Devon Great Consols in 1844) introduced East Wheal Russell to Mr. J. H. Murchison, a name also well known as a promoter of legitimate mining. At that time not a foot of ground had been opened, and nothing could be seen to indicate any mineral whatever, except such as is familiar to the most experienced and able practical men. Considerable excitement was created about the lode, and much difference of opinion was expressed, some even denying that it was a lode at all, and that what was called a "gossan" was not so. We need not enter more into detail, as our columns have so frequently testified to the fierce contentions on the subject. Mr. Hitchins always held and expressed his strong views on the mine, which are now being realised; and Mr. Murchison, by his very great exertions and perseverance, as well as indefatigable industry, and the judicious manner in which he has protected the interests of the shareholders, has earned for himself the thanks of those who now reap the results of legitimate mining. The mine has been at work eight or nine years, and during that time the shares have fluctuated considerably, having been at times quite unsaleable, and indeed were given away. We shall only add at present, that if those who enter into mining would but look more to the objects in view in carrying on the operations, and support the pushing on these vigorously, and less to the present price of shares, there would be fewer complaints, and more instances of success.

WEST PAR CONSOLS.—This mine is looking exceedingly well, as will be seen by the report received this week, the agent stating that the course of tin in the 45 is the best he has seen for many years. At the meeting held on the 2d inst. the accounts showed a profit for three months of 135L, and it is expected that the current quarter will yield still better results. The operations are evidently opening out a lasting and profitable concern, and great credit is due to Capt. Webb, who is not only an excellent miner, but a highly respectable and cautious agent. This is another mine set to work by Mr. Murchison, in 1852, and we firmly believe it will shortly prove an additional testimony to his unusual energy, ability, and perseverance.

FOREST OF DEAN.—(*From our own Correspondent.*)—We are gratified in being able to state that the directors of the Forest of Dean Central Railway are in a position to proceed with the works, and that a meeting will be shortly held to make the necessary arrangements to that end. At Parkend Iron-Works, the property of the Forest of Dean Iron Company, No. 1 furnace produced last week 145 tons of pig-iron. The second furnace is undergoing repairs, but no time will be lost in putting it in order for work, and it will probably be blown in early in the coming spring. A considerable portion of the rich calcareous iron ore from the eastern mine, near Coleford, is now being used at Parkend, and with the best results, as the increasing weekly yield will show. This ore is mainly what is termed technically "brush," either in large lumps, or crushed and broken, with slight layers of very thin grease-like red clay amongst it. It fuses remarkably easily, assists the action of the furnaces, and is latterly so much improved in quality, that the sample upon the banks now, which is not less than 6000 tons, contains fully 45 per cent. of iron.

TITANIUM.—At the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, Mr. Wm. Brockbank exhibited some large specimens of Titanium, which have recently been found in considerable quantities, filling the crevices and under the hearths of the fire-brick linings of the furnaces of the Hematite Iron Company, of Whitehaven. In one instance it occurred in a large mass weighing nearly 4 cwt., under the furnace hearth, having found its way through the crevices between the fire-bricks. Smaller masses, weighing from 50 lbs. or 60 lbs. to a few ounces, were found filling the hollows and crevices in the lining of the furnace, around that part which holds the molten metal. The occurrence of Titanium in such large quantities is a new and interesting circumstance, previous instances being confined to a few furnaces in South Wales (where Hematite ore is used as a mixture), and to some in the Hartz mountains, in both of which cases the specimens found were comparatively small. Small crystals of it have long been found in the slags of many ironworks. Should any commercial use be discovered for Titanium, it could be supplied in considerable quantities.

THE AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.—A requisition is in the course of signature to the directors from several shareholders in the Australian Mining Company, urging them to call a public meeting, for the purpose of reconsidering the resolution passed in July last for the abandonment of mining operations at Charlton. We understand that if the shareholders still decline to go on, a new company will be formed for the purpose of purchasing or leasing the Charlton Mine.

THE AUSTRALIAN COPPER MARKET.—We are informed that the price of this great representative of the mineral interest of this colony was on Tuesday altered at the board meeting of the South Australian Mining Association, from 96s. to 105s. per ton, net cash at Port Adelaide. The directors, we are told, were influenced in taking this rising step in consequence of the high rates ruling in India, and not by any intelligence received respecting the state of the London market. In these dull agricultural and agitating pastoral times it is refreshing to observe that the mining interest of the province continues to have what our mercantile reporter would call "an upward tendency."—*South Australian Chronicle*, Nov. 27.

With this week's *Mining Journal* we publish a SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET, which contains—The Study of Geology—Its Social Value and Industrial Importance; Comparative Value of Fuels; On the Utilization of Waste Substances; Household Words.—No. I: Cornish Mine Photographs—Second Series.—No. XII: Cornish Mining Maxims—No. X: The Coal Trades of the United States; Copper Mining in the South of Spain; The "Governor" Safety-Cage for Miners; Novel Apparatus for Ventilating Mines; Treatment of Zinc Ores; Coal-Burning Locomotives in America; Substitute for Black Lead; A Substitute for Red Lead; The Law of Partnership; Engineering Precedents for Steam Machinery; "The Pitman's Daughter" or Struggles for Education," &c.

With the *Mining Journal* of Feb. 12 we gave a SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET, containing—The Patent Law, and its Reformers; Trevithick in Costa Rica; Outlines of Practical Science; The Mining and Smelting Interests of Chile; Mr. Cuell's Statistics of the Mining Interest; Cornish Mining Photographs—Rosewall Hill; Legitimate Mining; On the Progressive Applications of Machinery to Mining Purposes; On the Artificial Formation of Oxychloride of Copper (Atacamite) and the Sulphates of Copper; Distillation of Shale; Steam Generators; Improvements in Wheels and Skids; Economy in Coal, &c.

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET—LONDON, Feb. 25, 1859.

| COPPER. | £ s. d. | BRASS. | Per lb. |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Copper wire | p. lb. 0 1 2 0 1 2 1 2 | Sheets | 10s 4d. - 11s 1d. |
| ditto tubes | " 0 1 2 1 2 0 1 3 1 2 | Wire | 11d. - |
| Sheathing & bolts | " 0 1 0 1 2 0 1 3 1 2 | Tubes | 13s 1d. - 14d. |
| Bottoms | " 0 1 1 0 1 2 0 1 1 2 | FOREIGN STEEL. | Per Ton. |
| Old (Exchange) | " 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 | Swedish, in kgs. (rolled) | (nom.) |
| Best selected | p. ton 115 10 0 - | " (hammered) | 20 10 0-21 10 0 |
| Tough cake | " 112 10 0 - | Ditto, in faggots | 21 0 0-22 0 0 |
| Wire | " 112 10 0 - | English, Spring | 18 0 0-23 0 0 |
| South American | " 105 0 0-107 0 0 | QUICKSILVER | p. lb. 0 1 1 0 0 0 |
| IRON. | Per Ton. | SPELTER. | Per Ton. |
| Bars, Welsh, in London | 7 5 0 - | Foreign | 21 13 6-21 15 0 |
| Ditto, to arrive | 6 17 6 7 0 0 0 | To arrive | 21 10 0 - |
| Nail rods | 7 10 0 - | ZINC. | |
| Stafford, in London | 8 0 0 9 0 0 0 | In sheets | 29 0 0 - |
| Bars ditto | 8 0 0 9 0 0 0 | ENGLISH. | |
| Hoops ditto | 9 0 0 9 0 0 0 | Blocks | 12s 0 0 - |
| Sheets, single | 9 10 0 10 0 0 | Ditto, Bars (in barrels) | 12s 0 0 - |
| Pig, No. 1, in Wales | 13 5 0 14 5 0 0 | Ditto, Refined | 13s 0 0 - |
| Refined metal, ditto | 4 10 0 5 5 0 0 | Common | 13s 10 0-132 0 0 |
| Ditto, railway ditto | 6 0 0 6 5 0 0 | Ditto, Swed. in London | 12s 0 0-130 0 0 |
| In to arrive | 10 10 0 16 9 0 0 | TIN-PLATES. | |
| Pig, No. 1, in Clyde | 21 11 6 2 13 0 | IC Charcoal, 1st qua. p. bx. | 12 10 0 13 0 |
| Ditto, in Tyne & Tees | 21 19 6 3 2 6 | IC Ditto 1st quality | 18 0 0 1 19 0 |
| Ditto, forge | 21 17 6 2 6 | IC Ditto 2d quality | 10 0 0 1 11 0 |
| Staffordshire Forge Pig | 4 10 0 5 0 0 0 | IC Ditto 2d quality | 11 16 0 1 17 0 |
| Welsh Forge Pig | 3 0 0 3 5 0 0 | IC Coke | 1 6 6 - |
| LEAD. | | IX Ditto | 1 12 6 - |
| English Pig | 22 15 0 23 0 0 0 | Canada plates | p. ton 15 0 0 15 0 0 |
| Ditto sheet | 23 10 0 - | In London | 20s. less at the works. |
| Ditto red lead | 24 0 0 - | Yellow Metal Sheathing | p. lb. 10s. 6d. |
| Ditto white | 30 0 0 - | Wetterstedt's Pat. Met. .. | p. cwt. 2 2 |
| Ditto patent shot | 26 10 0 - | Spanish | 22 5 0-22 10 0 |
| none | | Indian Charcoal Pigs | — 7 10 0 |
| American | | In London | — |

* At the works, Is. to ls. 6d. per box less.

REMARKS.—Metals are inactive, and our market is somewhat weaker; nevertheless prices of most metals remain unaltered.

COPPER.—There is very little, if any, improvement to notice in the demand for this metal; smelters, however, have not reduced fixed rates, and holders of second hand parcels have not been inclined to make much concession; in fact, just now the quantity held by speculators appears to be small, and a few good orders would soon clear off the whole in the market; but while so little enquiry exists, and these second hand lots remain, prices are weakened. Burra Burra is held firmly, and importers are disinclined to effect sales under 114s. 10s. to 115s. per ton.

IRON.—An average number of orders have been executed at quoted prices, and scarcely any difference to note in quotations for manufactured descriptions, both as regards Welsh and Staffordshire makes. Scotch pigs have slightly drooped; shipments limited and speculation suspended. Operations are mostly confined to *bond fide* purchasers: m.n. nominally 5ls. 6d. cash, g.m.b., f.o.b. in the Clyde.

LEAD.—The value of this metal is firmly maintained, and there is no change to note in prices.

SPELTER.—Several transactions are reported at various prices, especially for arrival, sellers gradually giving way from 22s. ex ship, to 21s. 7s. 6d. During the last rise in prices many parcels were sold for spring delivery at prices much above present value, consequently buyers, knowing that a great portion would come upon the market, have held back from making purchases; and sellers, also, being aware of the position of this metal, have been anxious to sell before the arrival of any speculative lots. We may yet experience a further decline in prices, and until these arrivals have taken place, and together with some of the present stock in warehouse here is cleared off, there is not much prospect of any amendment. We called attention some short time since to the unwarrantable advance in prices, as they were entirely forced, and not supported by a legitimate business; 23s. 10s. was obtained, since which the market has given way about 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton, at that time there being sellers, now at 21s. 7s. 6d. to 21s. 15s. Buyers must not now be too sanguine of prices going much lower, although the appearances of the market would indicate a downward tendency.

TIN.—English as before—quiet but firm. A few transactions in foreign; Straits, 12s. 10s. cash, 130s. three months; some of the large importers will not sell under 135s. per ton. Banca is held for 132s. to 133s.; a few outside parcels might probably be bought at 10s. per ton less for cash.

TIN-PLATES.—The manufacturers have not altered their rates either for coke or charcoal.

STEEL.—Swedish keg is now quoted 10s. per ton higher—21s. 10s.

QUICKSILVER.—After long negotiations with Madrid, prices have at last been settled, but not to the satisfaction of buyers generally. Importers for some time past have declined to accept orders at old prices, and some at the same time did not give notice of any change likely to ensue. The stock being entirely exhausted here, and a better enquiry springing up amongst the East India and China merchants, prompted speculators to enter the market, which altogether considerably swelled the demand, but now the new terms are made known several orders have been withdrawn as the opportunity for speculating has ceased. The present price is 7s. per bottle, instead of so much per lb.; discount 3 per cent. instead of 1½ per cent. as before; no draft, tare, or tret.

GLASGOW, FEB. 24.—During the past few days our market has remained very dull, and the tendency has been decidedly downwards, a large parcel having been sold at a shade under 5ls. 6d. cash; we closed quiet to-day with sellers of warrants at 5ls. 6d., and buyers at 5ls. 3d. No. 1, Gartshie, 55s.; No. 1, g.m.b., 50s. 9d.; No. 3, g.m.b., 50s. 6d.

LIVERPOOL, FEB. 24.—The tone of the metal market during the past week has been languid, especially as regards iron, caused, in a great measure, by the feeling of increasing uncertainty which characterises the aspect of continental matters, and which, for the time being, counteracts the improved feeling that would otherwise be observable from the better demand which exists for the United States and for Canada. Prices generally are nominal, and are governed by the extent of the orders offered, for the most part being in favour of the buyers. Scotch pig-iron has not recovered the depression mentioned in last week's report, and the absence of speculation, grounded upon the gloomy apprehensions above alluded to, tends to assist the downward tendency. The shipments are not by any means so large as they would have been if facilities for exportation had been plentiful. Tonnage has been scarce, and the rates of freight high, and the legitimate exports have been thereby checked in some measure. The shipments for the week are 7226 tons, against 10,490 tons in the corresponding week of last year. The demand for English tin continues to be good, more especially for refined. Foreign tin is in better request, and full rates are freely paid. Tin-plates show no alteration, current quotations being fairly maintained. The exports to the United States are considerable, and orders still in hand are to a fair extent. Copper exhibits no change; a good business is doing, and prices are well established. In lead a good enquiry is observable, at somewhat firmer rates. The following are the quotations:—Iron: Merchant bar, 6s. 12s. 6d. to 7s. 10s. per ton.—Tin: Common block, 12s. per ton; common bar, 12s. 6d.; refined block, 13s. 6d.—Tin-plates: Charcoal, IC, 32s. to 32s. 6d. per box; coke, IC, 25s. 6d. to 27s. 6d.

THE AUSTRALIAN COPPER MARKET.—We are informed that the price of this great representative of the mineral interest of this colony was on Tuesday altered at the board meeting of the South Australian Mining Association, from 96s. to 105s. per ton, net cash at Port Adelaide. The directors, we are told, were influenced in taking this rising step in consequence of the high rates ruling in India, and not by any intelligence received respecting the state of the London market. In these dull agricultural and agitating pastoral times it is refreshing to observe that the mining interest of the province continues to have what our mercantile reporter would call "an upward tendency."—*South Australian Chronicle*, Nov. 27.

Lead: Englishsheet, 23s. per ton; English pig, 22s. 15s

which will take a few months to accomplish; in regard to tin, the agent writes that the lode in the stopes is the finest course of tin he had seen for many years. Carn Brea 70 to 72d.; Cargoll, 12 to 13; Cook's Kitchen, 5d. to 5d.; Ding Dong, 12d. to 13; East Gunnis Lake, 25s. to 27s.; Trefoil and Messer have been done at 1d.; a fine lode has been cut, worth 22d. per fathom. North Roskear shares have advanced from 25 to 29, 31; an improvement has taken place in the 174, west of Pearce's shaft. South Tolgs, 72d. to 75. Tinmar Consols, 29s. to 31s. Wendoron Consols, 37d. to 42d., and mine improved; the 32 east is worth 25d. per fathom. Wheal Grylls advanced from 4d. to 7; a fine course of tin was reported on Friday as having been cut in the 19 west, worth 40d. per fathom. West Bassett, 21 to 22; West Caradon, 6d. to 6d.; West Sutton, 33d.; Wheal Addams, 12s. 6d. to 15s.; Wheal Arthur, 5s. to 7s. 6d.; Wheal Charlotte, 3d. to 4d.; Wheal Edward, 2d. to 2d.; Wheal Kitty (Lelant), 11 to 11d.; South Caradon, 44d. to 45d.; Wheal Mary Ann, 17d. to 48; Wheal Pollard, 5s.; an improvement has taken place here, which in depth may be of importance. Wheal Trelawny, 30 to 32. Kelly Bray, 2d. to 2d.; mine further improved. Rosewarne and Herland, 10d. to 11d. Penhalls, 9; the lode at the engine-shaft is worth 80d. per fathom. Grampier and St. Aubyn, 9d. to 9d.; mine looking better. North Minera, 5d. to 6; North Downs, 3 to 3d.; Craddock Moor, 29 to 31; Holmbush, 22s. 6d. to 25s.; Tavy Consols, 14s. to 16s.; Wheal Uny, 9 to 10; Wheal Wrey, 3 to 3d. Late this afternoon (Friday) a shareholder in Rosewarne has placed in our hands a printed letter, which has been sent round by the purser (Mr. Huthnance), in reply to some of the remarks made in the *Mining Journal* in reference to official reports, &c. We have had barely time to read this precious production, but hope to do it full justice next week.

Considerable animation has been displayed at the Stock Exchange in the shares of British Mines. The most extensive dealings were in those of East Wheal Russell, which advanced rapidly from 11d. to 20 per share. The business officially recorded was as follows, the last figures being the closing price:—East Wheal Russell, 11d., 12d., 20, 20s., 20s., 21d., 21, 19d., 20; South Caradon, 44d., 44d., 45s., Alfred Consols, 7d., 7; South Wheal Francis, 22s.; Par Consols, 16d., 16d., 16d.; East Bassett, 20s.; Wheal Mary Ann, 48; Wheal Trelawny, 30d., 30; Tincroft, 3d.; and Grampier and St. Aubyn, 9d.

Transactions in Colonial Mining Shares were confined to those of the North Rhine of South Australia and Bon Accord; the former were dealt in at 1d., and the latter at 3d.

In Foreign Mining Shares, the operations were—Linares, 8d.; Marquita, 1d.; Cobre Copper, 3s.

At Redruth Ticketing, on Thursday, 2463 tons of ore were sold, realising 15,300d. 13s. 6d. The particulars of the sale were—Average standard, 142d. 5s.; average produce, 6d.; average price per ton, 6d. 4s. 6d.; quantity of fine copper, 155 tons 3 cwt. The following are the particulars:—

| Date. | Tons. | Standard. | Produce. | Price per ton. | Ore copper. |
|----------|-------|-----------|----------|----------------|-------------|
| Jan. 27. | 8356 | £141 19 | 6d. | £6 0 6 | 97 19 |
| Feb. 3. | 3787 | 138 19 | 6d. | 6 0 0 | 97 19 |
| 10. | 4528 | 140 16 | 5d. | 5 18 6 | 96 4 |
| 17. | 4572 | 143 6 | 5d. | 5 15 0 | 96 18 |
| 24. | 2463 | 142 5 | 6d. | 6 4 6 | 98 12 |

Compared with last week's sale, the advance has been in the standard 7s., and in the price per ton of ore about 5d. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the advance has been in the standard 15s., and in the price per ton of ore about 11d.

At the Swansea Ticketing, on Tuesday, 1035 tons of ore were sold, realising 18,647d. 8s. The particulars of the sale were—Average standard, 111d. 3s. 9d.; average produce, 18 3-16; average price per ton, 18d. 0s. 4d. The particulars of the sales during the past month have been:—

| Date. | Tons. | Standard. | Produce. | Price per ton. | Ore copper. |
|---------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| Jan. 11 | 1579 | £116 7 9 | 12 13-16. | £12 12 6 | £2 28 14 6 |
| 25. | 1307 | 116 3 0 | 15 | 15 0 | 101 6 9 |
| Feb. 8. | 2910 | 116 18 0 | 12 13 | 10 0 | 99 5 0 |
| 22. | 1035 | 111 3 9 | 18 3-16. | 18 0 4 | 99 0 3 |

Compared with the last sale, the decline has been—in the standard, 2d.; and in the price per ton of ore, about 4s. Compared with the corresponding sale of last month, the decline has been—in the standard, 3d. 7s. 9d.; and in the price per ton of ore, about 6s. 6d. The sampling included 18 tons of ore from Cribbarth, which were withdrawn. Of the 1035 tons of ore sold on Tuesday, 55 tons were from British mines, which gave an average produce of 6 7-16, and sold at an average standard of 123d. 18s. = 6d. 12s. 8d. per ton of ore; and the remaining 980 tons were foreign ores, which gave an average produce of 18s., and sold at an average standard of 118d. 13s. = 18s. 1d. per ton of ore.—On March 15, 1239 tons will be sold, from Knockmahan, Na-naqua, Cobre, Pary's, Wheal Maria, La Coronada, Wheal Emma, Great Barrier, Molland, Walwich Bay, Sydney, Bampfylde, Wildberg, Tuscany, and English and Canadian.

The following dividends were declared during the month of February:—

| Per share. | Amount. |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Minera | £10 0 0 |
| Wheal Margaret | 7 0 0 |
| Provident | 5 10 0 |
| Wheal Bassett | 6 0 0 |
| St. Ives Consols | 6 0 0 |
| West Seton | 7 0 0 |
| Dolcoath | 7 0 0 |
| Great South Tolgs | 7 0 0 |
| Wheal Trelawny | 2 0 0 |
| Tincroft | 0 5 0 |
| United Mines | 3 0 0 |
| Wheal Mary | 2 0 0 |
| Levant | 5 0 0 |
| Herdsfoot | 0 12 6 |
| Alfred Consols | 0 2 6 |
| South Garris | 2 0 0 |
| Wheal Charlotte | 0 10 0 |
| Devon and Cornwall | 0 2 6 |
| Botalack | 2 10 0 |
| Wheal Seton | 2 10 0 |
| Wheal Owles | 5 0 0 |
| Total | £34,802 10 0 |

At Wheal Margaret meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts for the quarter ending December showed—Balance last audit, 1897. 2s. 4d.; the sold, 6895. 9s. 7d. = 7354. 1s. 2d.—Labour cost and carriage, 227d. 4s. 2d.; costs, 217d. 16s. 5d.; merchants' bills, 719d. 7s. 7d.; dues, 352d. 7s. 7d.; leaving a credit balance, 3825d. 18s. 5d. The profit on the three months' working was 3262d. 16s. 1d. A dividend of 313d. 17s. (7d. per 448d. share) was declared, leaving balance to next account, 6897. 18s. 5d. It was resolved that the shares be subdivided into 896ths.

At Wheal Owles meeting, on Feb. 18, the accounts for Oct., Nov., and Dec. showed—Balance in favour last audit, 1897. 18s. 9d.; tin sold (less dues), 6589. 9s. 7d. = 1624d. 16s. 10d.; subsidiary receipts, 134d. 15s. 1d.; sundry credits, 71d. 10s. 5d. = 6362d. 16s. 11d. The profit on the three months' working was 3262d. 16s. 1d. A dividend of 3080d. (5d. 10s. per share) was declared, carried to next account. The agent's report was very satisfactory, and no falling off in the produce is anticipated.

At South Garris meeting, on Feb. 18, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 556d. 14s. 2d.; ore sold, 2465d. 10s. 7d.; sundries, 22d. 6s. = 3044d. 10s. 9d.—Mine cost, 113d. 1s. 2d.; merchants' bills and calls, 413d. 6s. 8d.; interest, discount, &c., 587. 2s. dues; 144d. 8s. 5d.; stamped cheque book, 12s. 6d.; leaving credit balance, 124d. 10s. 1d. A dividend of 512d. (2d. per share) was declared, and 752d. 10s. 1d. carried to next account. Capt. W. Burrows and Robert Fyzer reported that the engine-shaft will be completed to the 70 by end of next month. The lode in the 60 is at present not so productive, the ground being a little disordered; the end is producing saving work, and from the appearance of the lode in the winze will produce 2½ tons per fathom. The lode in the 60 south is improving daily. Gregory's stopes are worth 2 tons per fathom, 1½ ton; Pedlar's stopes, 2 tons. The lode in the 50 fm. level north is worth 1½ ton, and the end daily improving. Ball's stopes are worth 1 ton more per fathom.

At the Hibernian Mining Company meeting, on Feb. 7, a dividend of 15s. per share was declared for the half-year ending Dec. 31.

At Alfred Consols meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 923d. 7s. 9d.; ore sold (less dues), 3600d. 1s. 10d.; sundries, 6d. 9s. 6d. = 12,251d. 1s. 3d.—Costs, Sept., 227d. 12s. 1d.; Oct., 2320d. 18s. 1d.; Nov., 2289d. 4s. 11d.; interest and commission, 207. 16s. 5d.; merchants' bills, 73d. 4s. 10d.; leaving a credit balance of 1609d. 11s. 10d. A dividend of 640d. (2s. 6d. per share) was declared, and 969d. 11s. 10d. was carried to next account. Capt. Trelawny, Hosking, and Uren, report that they have driven on the south lode in the 120, west of intersection, 17 fms. 11 fms. of which was moderate tribute ground; it then improved, and continued for 4 fathoms, worth 50d. per fathom; after this the lode became disordered and split into branches. In the end we have intersected a cross-course, which no doubt disordered the lode; the lode in the back over this level is now worth 25d. per fathom. The 110 is worth 18d. per fathom; the 110, south branch, is worth 18d. per fathom; the branch in this level west of cross-course is worth 10d. per fathom. Our sampling to-morrow will be about 320 tons, and much of the same quality as the last.

At North Bassett Mine meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 438d. 4s. 2d.; advance on tribute, 250d.; copper ore sold, November, 1437d. 6d.; ditto, (including tin and sundries), 391d. 12s. = 1557d. 2s. 8d.—Mine cost, merchants' bills, tribute, &c., Nov., 1186d. 2s. 8d.; property tax on dues and profits (half-year), 166d. 1s. 4d.; mine cost, &c., Dec., 156d. 2s. 7d.; advance on

tribute, 230d.; leaving credit balance, 55d. 10s. 9d. Capt. Glanville was requested to send on with his report for the next meeting a full statement of the reserves of ore, and probable value of same. Their sampling on Wednesday, it was estimated, would be about 140 tons of copper ore.

At Fowey Consols general meeting, on Feb. 15, the statement of accounts showed—Copper sold, 12,086d. 6s. 2d.; sundries, 121d. 10s. 6d.; black jack, 73d. 5s. 1d. = 12,251d. 1s. 3d.—Costs, Sept., 227d. 12s. 1d.; Oct., 2320d. 18s. 1d.; Nov., 2289d. 4s. 11d.; merchants' bills, 73d. 4s. 10d.; leaving a profit on the four months' working of 282d. 0s. 4d., which, with the balance from last audit (400d. 4s. 10d.), making 1289d. 5s. 2d., was agreed to be carried to the next account. Capt. Rich, Merrett, and S. Sampson, report they are not yet through the cross-course in the 250. The lode in the 250 (Trathan's lode) will yield about 6 tons per fathom, worth 9d. per ton. The lode in the 260, will yield 15 tons per fathom; the 240, 2 tons; the 230, 2 tons; and the 230 west, 2½ tons per fathom. The lode in the winze under the 180, on Hewett's lode, will yield about 3 tons, worth 10d. per ton; in the 180 west, 1½ tons, worth 9d. per ton. The 90 west, on John's lode, will yield 2 tons; the 80 east, 2½ tons. In the 60 cross-cut the ground had improved, but they had not yet cut the lode. They regretted to say that many of the old pitches are fast wearing out, and were it not for the recent improvements in the mine the returns would materially diminish. It will be necessary to incur considerable expense for new machinery before any pecuniary benefit can be derived from the land recently added to the sett.

At Ballewidden Mine meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Tin sold, 4647d. 5s. 10d.; Mine cost three months, 2622d. 10s. 9d.; coals, 280d. 10s. 9d.; carriage, 133d. 3s. 10d.; merchants' bills, 10s. 1d.; interest and commission, 166d. 9s. 7d.; sundries, 10s. 1d.; leaving debit balance, 1807d. 9s. At the Brynford Hall Mine meeting, on Feb. 12 (Mr. W. Page in the chair), the accounts showed—Mine cost, Oct., 209d. 1s. 5d.; Nov., 166d. 4s. 4d.; Dec., 202d. 1s. 3d.; bill of costs for iron, 58d. 4s.; royalties, 43d. 10s. 9d.; sundries, 10s. 1d.; leaving debit balance, 1807d. 9s. A vote of thanks was given to Capt. C. Jones for his skill, assiduity, and faithfulness in prosecuting the working of the mine. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were elected to succeed in obtaining a new lease from Lord Fielding and Meares, Ratcliffe and Williamson, for 21 years from Dec. last. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were appointed the committee of management. Capt. C. Jones reported that the work had been prosecuted unremittingly at the new openings of the Crosbie and Bosstock shafts, to which their operations had been chiefly directed.

At Wheal Tremayne meeting, on Feb. 15, the accounts showed—Balance last audit, 2265d. 19s. 1d.; mine cost, Oct. to Dec., 127d. 18s. 3d.; merchants' bills, 70d. 6s. 1d.; due, 419d. 3s. 5d.; Call, 102d. 1s. 1d.; tin sold (less dues), 56d. 1s. 1d.; leaving debit balance, 1807d. 9s. A vote of thanks was given to Capt. C. Jones for his skill, assiduity, and faithfulness in prosecuting the working of the mine. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were elected to succeed in obtaining a new lease from Lord Fielding and Meares, Ratcliffe and Williamson, for 21 years from Dec. last. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were appointed the committee of management. Capt. C. Jones reported that the quantity of ore raised would for the present time cover the costs; and the immediate prospects afforded the best chances of making some of the most important discoveries ever made in that district.

At Hereward United Mines meeting, on Feb. 12 (Mr. W. Page in the chair), the accounts showed—Mine cost, Oct., 209d. 1s. 5d.; Nov., 166d. 4s. 4d.; Dec., 202d. 1s. 3d.; bill of costs for iron, 58d. 4s.; royalties, 43d. 10s. 9d.; sundries, 10s. 1d.; leaving debit balance, 1807d. 9s. A vote of thanks was given to Capt. C. Jones for his skill, assiduity, and faithfulness in prosecuting the working of the mine. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were elected to succeed in obtaining a new lease from Lord Fielding and Meares, Ratcliffe and Williamson, for 21 years from Dec. last. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were appointed the committee of management. Capt. C. Jones reported that the work had been prosecuted unremittingly at the new openings of the Crosbie and Bosstock shafts, to which their operations had been chiefly directed.

At Wheal Tremayne meeting, on Feb. 15, the accounts showed—Balance, 687d.; labour cost, 1262d. 16s. 10d.; merchants' bills, &c., 42d. 6s. 5d.; coal, on account, 262d. 1s. 3d.; sundries, 12d. 11d.; interest, 2d.; carriage, 127d. 18s. 3d.; leaving a balance against the mine of 174d. 1s. 1d.; materials sold, 6d. 9s. 6d.; leaving debit balance, 1169d. 11s. 1d. The agreement with West Wheal Providence was approved. Capts. R. Williams and J. Williams reported that they were progressing favourably in repairing Alken's shaft, and expected to commence drawing through it next week. Their prospects on the whole, are favourable, and they expected to raise as much tin for the next three months as they had for the past.

At Devon and Courtney meeting, on Feb. 15 (Mr. Thos. Nicholls in the chair), the statement of accounts showed—Dec. cost, 166d. 1s. 3d.; Jan., 141d. 14s.; merchants' bills, &c., 109d. 8s. 1d.; due, 417d. 1s. 1d.; Call, 102d. 1s. 1d.; tin sold (less dues), 56d. 1s. 1d.; leaving debit balance, 1807d. 9s. A vote of thanks was given to Capt. C. Jones for his skill, assiduity, and faithfulness in prosecuting the working of the mine. Messrs. W. Page, W. Bostock, and R. Hamersley, were elected to succeed

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Notices to Correspondents.

* * * Much inconvenience having arisen, in consequence of several of the numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt; it thus forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

* * * Any reader having copies of the *Mining Journal* for Jan. 8 and Feb. 12, which he does not require, will oblige by forwarding them to our office. They shall either be paid for, or papers of other dates forwarded.

ECONOMISING STEAM.—So far as I could understand the invention of Messrs. Pascoe and Thomas, in your last Journal, it appeared extremely complicated; and I almost fear that the difficulty of keeping so many parts in order would counterbalance any advantage to be derived from the use of the machine. The cost of repairs might very likely exceed the amount saved in the consumption of coal, and thus an absolute loss would result, as there would be nothing to meet the expense of introducing the new system. Perhaps Messrs. Pascoe and Thomas can show that there are advantages in every way, and then mine adventurers and others will have some inducement to adopt it.—*ENGINEER: Camborne, Feb. 21.*

COPPER AND LEAD MINING IN STAFFORDSHIRE.—Will some one interested kindly inform me of the customary royalty given in the county of Stafford to the lords of the manor for the right of working mines?—S. E.

MANUFACTURE OF ALUMINUM.—As some gentleman advertises in your last Journal that he can manufacture this metal at a very low rate, I should like to know what he proposes to do with it when he has manufactured it. Supposing the price to be but 2s. 6d. per oz., I cannot see that it will be commercially useful, for its appearance it is not nearly equal to silver, nor even to good white metal. The nearest approach to it, so far as beauty is concerned, is lead; and I think most would prefer a good German silver to lead for articles of domestic use. Perhaps the gentleman who stated at the Society of Arts that he had engaged to deliver 500 ozs. could enlighten us on the subject.—S. B.

ALUMINUM.—The best clay to be procured for making aluminium in England is probably at Wortley, near Leeds, from which considerable quantities of alum have been made. The clay is much used for manufacturing fire-brick, terracotta, sanitary tubing, chimney-pots, and sundry architectural decorations. Its use was until lately very limited, but is now gradually expanding—the fire-bricks are exported to all parts of the world in large quantities. Should a work be erected here for reducing aluminium, it would indeed be a novel and grand feature for the district, abounding as it does in cheap coal. Being so near the great seats of demand for all kinds of metals—Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Sheffield, and Leeds itself, a large and constant supply would probably be required. The beds of clay are inexhaustible. The great question is—Will it pay? That aluminium in considerable quantities may be procured is proved beyond a doubt.—H.

ROSEWARNE UNITED.—This matter shall receive attention—perhaps next week.

THE WORTHING MINING COMPANY.—It is stated in your Journal of last week that "The Corner" has been canvassing the question as to the directors of this company suddenly throwing the 30,000 forfeited shares on the market, to raise a capital for the prosecution of the mine. I beg to say, in reply, that these shares were forfeited some years ago, and it is not in the power of the directors to re-issue them without first obtaining a resolution of a general meeting. The directors desire me to state that they have not at present any idea of recommending such a course to the shareholders; and I trust this explanation may prove satisfactory to "The Corner." Should the mine continue to improve as it has lately done we shall be in a dividend state long before the present capital is expended, for the mine even now more than pays its way, and were it not for the heavy expense of purchase and erection of necessary machinery good profits would now be securing. The last despatches, by an error of the post-office, were only delivered via Southampton, although directed via Marseilles.—*GEORGE LAVINGTON, Secretary: 29, Holles-place, Feb. 25.*

BEREHAVEN MINES, IRELAND.—We are not aware that a call has ever been made. The mines have been at work now nearly 50 years, and are still very productive.

SOUTH CEDRA MINING COMPANY.—The omission of my Christian name in the report of the meeting of this company, in your last Journal, at which meeting I was in the chair, obliges me to ask the favour of your inserting these few lines, in case my name should have been mistaken for that of my eldest brother, Mr. Hugh Seymour Tremenheere, who is unconnected with this, or, as I am authorised to say, any other mining company.—J. HENRY TREMENHEERE.

THE DOWNSING-EDD.—I had thought, from Mr. Henwood's long silence on the dowsing-report, that he had discovered the weakness of the position he had taken in his former communications on this subject. It seems, however, from his letter in last week's Journal, that he wishes to give the thing a further trial. He can do so, of course, but I best suggest for his guidance that the next time he uses it he will grip it less firmly, and give less bend to the twigs, and then see whether it will turn downwards, even over the richest lode ever discovered, for the turning downwards is simply a mechanical effect produced by the united action on the top, apex, of the elastic spring of the forks, from their being bent out of their proper position. I should not have troubled you with this, but I am anxious that mining should, as much as possible, steer clear of the exploded nonsense of our forefathers.—*ONE WHO HAS TRIED IT.*

MINERS' COPPER SMELTING COMPANY.—A correspondent ("T. J. H.") again moots this question in the *Mining Journal*, and on several occasions you have laid before the public the practicability of smelting in Cornwall. The matter has likewise been ably argued by many of your correspondents, and the advantages and disadvantages to be derived from the establishment of such works discussed in all its various phases. Would "T. J. H." have this Cornish company formed on the Cost-book System, commencing with a call of 1s. per share, and then, after the first subscription was paid, a number of the proprietors to refuse to respond to other calls? In a company, he must be aware that there must be board meetings, that there would be salaried directors, a paid secretary, and the manager of the works, in all likelihood, appointed on account of his connection with some of the shareholders. Minutes would have to be made; these, being known to many, must come out, and in consequence the great firms at Swansea would be enabled to dominate the market, the same as heretofore. The proposed capital of £100,000, if all subscribed, would be frittered away in the course of twelve months, that is in the event of the direction not nursing it for their own purposes, as I remember to mention; suffice it to say that an inconsiderable portion of the capital was subscribed, and dividends paid out of borrowed money. To successfully smelt in Cornwall and Devon, it must be done by the aid of some of the great producing mines, such as the Devon Great Consols, but it can never be practically carried out by an association of miners, who would be jealous of each other, or a company; there is no union or power of combination among Cornish miners. I have always considered their motto, "One and All," as a great satire, and think the correct reading should be "Everyone for Himself." There is ample opportunity, and opening, for smelting in Cornwall. It is useless, however, to imagine that this can ever be successfully carried out according to the present mode in which such establishments have hitherto been conducted. Single-handed energy, backed by large capital, will laugh at the efforts of a body of men who, most probably, judging from the general constitution of directorial boards, will be ignorant of the first principles of the business they profess to conduct. No man is competent to be on the board of a smelting association unless he is aware of the whole minutiae of the process, from the roaster to the refiner. Unless the greatest judgment is exercised, the company must fail; the subscribers will, however, have the satisfaction to know that they have not been concerned with a bubble, but a legitimate undertaking, which, in all probability, if ever it has existence, will shortly collapse from pure disorganisation and incompetency.—G. K.

MANUFACTURE OF ZINC.—I very frequently see sales of blende advertised in your Journal as having been effected, yet we hear very little of the manufacture of zinc in this country; and I am inclined to think that the ore is sold at a price far below their real value. Perhaps some of your correspondents could inform me where the principal zinc smelting works are situated, and what mine produce blende in the largest quantity?—G. H.

SIN.—Can any of your readers give some information respecting the sett on Mr Kendall's estate, near Lostwithiel, which was formerly worked under the name of the Castle Mine? It was said to have been about to be worked by Capt. Pascoe, of Great Wheal Busy, and party; it was also stated that your intelligent correspondent, Capt. J. Seymour, had the promise of the sett; and two or three others set up claims of precedence and occupation. Can any one, through the medium of the *Mining Journal*, inform me, and the public generally, if the sett be untrammeled? as I believe, under such circumstances, and a small concession on the part of Mr. Kendall, a party may be found to work the property with energy?—G. H.

ST. AUSTELL CONSOLS.—For some time I have not seen in your Journal any report of cobalt and nickel ore from the St. Austell Mine. Permit me to ask whether the vein has failed, or whether it continues to produce nickel and cobalt? and if so, what is the reason that the ore is not entered in the reports, as formerly?—*OBSERVER.*

CARON HILL MINING COMPANY.—The late captain and promoter of this company having died abroad, we fear the shareholders will have but a bad chance of gaining much desirable information. Probably, if he address a line to Capt. Retallack, of Sticklepath, near Okehampton, to be forwarded to him if not there, will elicit the best and most reliable information that can be obtained of this ill-starred and worse conducted affair.—*ONE WHO KNOWS THE SETT, BUT KEPT ALOOF FROM THE ADVENTURE.*

ST. AUSTELL BULLER.—A Shareholder in Sithney Wheal Butler and Great Wheal Vor Mines "should attach his name to his letter. The results may not prove so disastrous as he contemplates."

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VENTILATING OF COAL MINES.—Under this heading, a letter appears in last week's Journal, bearing the anonymous signature of "An Old Pitman." Now, to reply to this is not my intention; but to protest against such an attack made under a cover. Let the writer attach his name, as I do.—*ROBERT LANCASTER, Mining Engineer and Viewer: Orrell, near Wigan, Feb. 22.*

WEALD ADDAMS.—The policy you pursue with regard to dispositions, which in an advancing interest like that of mining are of increasing occurrence, is as just as it is popular, neither defending the strong nor neglecting the weak. Men of acknowledged ability, and of unimpeachable integrity, may perchance, by an error of judgment, be the means of unduly depreciating the value and prospects of a mine which they have been called upon to inspect. In such cases, however, would it not be well for all parties when their gloomy forebodings have been, perhaps, unexpectedly dissipated by the realisation of a more cheerful state of things, for agents to come boldly forward, and congratulate the parties interested upon the altered prospects of their enterprise? Would not this course allay the rancour that in mine disputes is sometimes so unfortunately evinced, and at the same time be the means of, in many cases, restoring public confidence?—*PACIFICUS: Feb. 23.*

ACADIAN CHARCOAL IRON COMPANY.—A few weeks since, in referring to the arbitration pending between Government and this company, one of your correspondents stated that the result would be made known in a few days. Being scientifically interested, I may be permitted to ask, if the arbitration has terminated, what is the result?—F.

EAST ALFRED MINE.—I am glad to see that attention has been called to this mine by "An Old Subscriber," in the Journal of Feb. 12. As a shareholder for many years, I feel that it is due to myself and other non-resident adventurers that our interests should be represented by some gentleman in whose reports we should feel perfect confidence; and I am certainly surprised that the purser, Mr. Painter, did not cordially support the proposition made to appoint Mr. Blews as auditor. That gentleman is, I believe, the largest shareholder, and has, I am told, never sold a share (a course very different to that pursued by another large shareholder, whose name I need not mention). I understand Mr. Blews is often in the county; and that he is well acquainted with mining accounts, he has during the last few months given very satisfactory accounts to the shareholders in a neighbouring mine, in which he is also a large adventurer. I trust, therefore, that at next account meeting Mr. Painter, of whose character I have a high opinion, will gladly agree to the appointment of an auditor, as it is very unreasonable that the bulk of the adventurers (for the shares are mainly held by non-residents) should not have the privilege of receiving reports through an impartial and reliable channel.—*AN OLD SHAREHOLDER.*

CLARENDON CONSOLS.—Can you inform me whether it is in the power of the direction, without the assent of proprietors, to forfeit shares in arrears of call? And (although there is sufficient money in hand to carry on their operations till next meeting) whether, in case of an eventuality, they are vested with the power of making a call?—R. : City.

LEGITIMATE MINING.—I heartily approve of the manner in which you treat this subject. Only let people who invest in mines enquire how the numerous fortunes have been made, principally in Cornwall, and they will find that it was by going into mining as a business, looking to the merits of the concerns they embarked in, and making up their minds to carry them out. Some persons buy shares, and after paying a few calls, probably in the aggregate a small amount, they begin to grumble, without knowing the least the position and prospects of the mines. But a great evil to which I would now draw your attention is the existence of a few persons, mostly in the City, who make a practice of running down certain mines, about which they know nothing whatever. This does much harm; and persons are often prevailed on to sell shares in mines because they are said to be worthless. I have often been strongly advised to sell East Russell, and even not long ago, because I was told the mine would never come to anything. I have no doubt some of your correspondents can explain this matter more fully, and I hope some steps will be taken to prevent such practices. Cannot the law reach those who wilfully and maliciously depreciate other people's property? If any one has sold his shares in East Russell upon such representations, would he not have a claim for damages?—*AN INVESTOR IN MINES.*

COMPANY OF COPPER MINERS IN ENGLAND.—This company was originally formed for working copper mines in England and Wales. Their charter was granted by William and Mary, 1690. For several years they have not been connected with mining; they are ironmasters, tin-plate manufacturers, and copper smelters. The Mines Royal Company was chartered in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; they have works near Swansea, hold their annual meetings in December, but never publish any reports.

QUARTZ REDUCTION COMPANY.—Although the company held a meeting some time since, yet I perceive that but little has been effected. After delaying and trifling with Mr. Squire for some months, they cannot now accept his proposition, and the consequence of this is they must take the best bargain they can for the plant, and surely they would be unwilling did they not accept his proposal. I remember the time when the shares of the old Agua Fria were at £1. prem., that Senator Gwynn, of California, slapped his hands on his breeches pocket, and offered to give 2*£*. prem. for any amount of shares. Of course, he was refused; at that time we were not aware that this was merely American swagger. We have, however, paid dearly for our misplaced confidence; and all those who have invested in gold mining shares, from the peer to the peasant, will have cause to remember the disastrous transaction of the years 1851–52. The directors should at once wind up the affairs of the company. Let us obtain the best price we can for the works and plant, and hear no more of these disastrous adventures. On a moderate calculation, at least £20,000,000. of money must have been spent on these ephemeral and deceptive projects.

CLERKES: Torquay.

ASHBURTON UNITED, AND LEGITIMATE MINING.—The letter from Mr. Nicholas Ennor shall appear next week; it reached us too late for this Journal.

THE MINING JOURNAL Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 26, 1859.

There appears to be a law regulating the progress of commercial industry bearing a strong analogy to those laws which so curiously determine the movements, in great cycles, of the earth's temperature and magnetism. As the physical forces move by undulations, so we see in our social progression a wave-like phenomenon. Starting—on the commercial ocean, for example—from the hollow of the wave, we see at first a slow upward movement, which gradually increases until the crest is reached, on which we ride in sunshine for a season, to fall again into the shadow of the lowest point. The sea-bird riding on the waters may be regarded as a type of the progress of every human industry.

Mining—if we look at its history since the commencement of the present century—will be found to have moved by such a system of undulations as we have indicated, and its *ups and downs* will exhibit a somewhat remarkable regularity. By mining, we would here be understood to mean the speculation in mines than the actual exploration of the earth for mineral treasures. It may be that periods of depression, and periods of undue excitement, are not to be prevented; that they are beyond the control of any legislative power, or any moral force: still certain it is that both like the paroxysms of fever, are abnormal conditions, due to an unhealthy atmosphere. Notwithstanding that we have since 1800 witnessed several phases of excitement—running riot even to madness, on two or three occasions—and an equal number of deep depressions, when all that surrounded the mining market was beyond measure gloomy, yet if we examine the returns for the last sixty years they will show how foolish has been the excitement, and how idle the depression.

We started in 1800 with a produce of 2522 tons of tin, this continued with great regularity until 1816, from which time the quantity gradually rose to 3000, 4000, and 5130 tons, which amount it reached in 1838. The malleable produce still steadily rose to 6000 tons in 1855, and in 1857 we find it is 6582 tons.

Our copper mines in Cornwall and Devon at the end of the 18th century produced about 50,000 tons of ore annually. The quantity steadily increased to 145,688 tons in 1833, and we find the produce is each year larger until, in 1857, it reaches 191,798 tons. The sales at Swansea exhibit an equally steady advance, and for the last eight years the total quantities of copper smelted in this country have been as follows:—

| Year. | Tons. | Year. | Tons. |
|------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 1850 | 23,868 | 1854 | 23,073 |
| 1851 | 22,796 | 1855 | 26,078 |
| 1852 | 20,515 | 1856 | 29,518 |
| 1853 | 22,384 | 1857 | 29,482 |

We are not enabled to determine our lead produce for so long a period

as that of copper and tin, but we find that—in 1845, our produce was 51,436 tons; in 1848, it was 54,853 tons; in

scientific Cornish system. Sir RODERICK MURCHISON, in his great work, writing of Shropshire, makes most favourable mention of the "Bog Mines;" and Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT, M.A., F.S.A., in a narrative of an excursion made by him to the Roman Lead Mines, and published with an admirable view of Shelfe Hill, Shropshire, and the Circle of "The Hoar Stones," in the *Illustrated London News* of Oct. 4, 1856, gives a very accurate estimate of the mineral produce of the mines in this neighbourhood. "The richness of the veins of lead in these hills," says Mr. WRIGHT, "may be imagined from the fact that Mr. Moore has calculated, from records in his own possession and other sources, that in the parish of Shelfe alone at least 60,000 tons have been raised, which, at an average of 25*t*. per ton (which, I am told, is a fair one) would amount to 1,500,000*t*., and yet out of 45,830 yards of mineral vein only 3700 yards have hitherto been opened to an average depth of 100 yards. I understand that experience has shown that the deeper the mines are carried the richer and more plentiful the ore. The Snailbeach Mine, at the northern end of the Stiperstone range, has been worked to a depth of 500 yards; and the Bog Mine, between Shelfe Hill and Stiperstone, reaches the same depth—in fact, the quantity of lead which may be procured hence is only limited by the amount of labour employed."

Thus reports a gentleman who visited the Shropshire district for no other motive than that of science and its truths; and we now quote his words in order to impress the fact on the public that any association formed to work the Bog Mine, or others here in the Stiperstone range—"the back-bone of England"—is founded on legitimate adventure, and merits the confidence of those of the enterprising world who justly estimate mineral traditions and geological indications.

We thus, in a spirit of fair play and in the general interest of mining, disown any aspersions which legal license and tact have sought to cast on gentlemen who gave their countenance and support to operations carried on in the Bog Mine. Errors of judgment in giving too much power to their manager may have occurred, because persons not practically versed in the operative details of mining are very liable to lean upon the judgment of one or more who possess a practical and experienced character, and who specially advance it in support of particular views. That this may have occurred is probable, but that any of the gentlemen mentioned ever for a moment permitted their principles to be biased by unworthy motives, it would be a rank injustice to imagine—an unpardonable solecism to assert.

Language is the earliest product of the human mind, and the power it gives in these mature days is but too often recklessly abused. We are not among those who would palliate an offence or screen a delinquency, no matter by whom committed. We would have, at all times, the acts of a public body investigated and scrutinised; but, on the other hand, we must be in justice to all engaged in MINING, deprecate unsupported, unverified, and improbable allegations—allegations pertly tongue by irresponsible and interested persons.

The *ex parte* statements of counsel are always received *cum grano salis*. Squabbles among shareholders so referred are almost generally to be deplored. Thus have mines of the greatest value passed away from captious and disunited people, and they have lived to see them worked successfully under a more rational and business-like system, and to find an enduring evidence of their own folly, perhaps poverty, in the good common sense and prosperity of others.

The course adopted by certain shareholders at the meeting of the ENGLISH AND AUSTRALIAN COPPER COMPANY, reminds us of an old Arabian fable, which is especially addressed to those who act precipitately, and regardless of all consideration of results. We are told that a stag once jumped into a well to quench his thirst, but after he had done so he was unable to get out; when a fox passing by exclaimed, "Oh, my brother! thou hast acted imprudently; for, without considering thy power to regain the surface, thou has descended into the well." At the meeting in question, it was not denied that efficient and thoroughly practical steps had been taken to bring the company into a permanently prosperous condition; and there certainly appeared every wish on the part of the directors to further not only the interests but also the wishes of the general body of shareholders, yet dissatisfaction, which in some instances was permitted to degenerate into the worst description of personalities, was expressed by gentlemen who appeared, like *Merentius*, to feel the greatest pleasure in hearing themselves talk. The chair was occupied by Sir W. FOSTER, Bart., who, in the endeavour to let the shareholders have the most reliable information, frequently referred the questions put to him to the manager, Mr. H. W. SCHNEIDER, who was, undoubtedly, far better able to reply. As the object of the enquirers was apparently rather to obtain answers which they could carp at than to arrive at facts, this was, of course, objected to; and a direct charge was made against the Chairman, that he knew nothing whatever of the affairs of the company, and that he was altogether incompetent to fulfil the duties he had undertaken—charges which he did not receive ill-humouredly, probably because he well knew the temperament of those attacking him.

One shareholder urged that the directors should retire, forgetting that the company was powerless to find other gentlemen equally qualified to occupy seats at the board. Their managing director—who, moreover, for his services in that capacity receives no remuneration—is probably better acquainted with the copper trade than any other shareholder; and the Chairman himself is so large a holder that he remarked, in reference to the distribution in lieu of dividend, that his vote would decide the question either way; but we think the shareholders could not have had a better proof that there was no desire to take advantage of them than the Chairman's assurance that he would vote with the majority, whichever way they voted. Fortunately, nothing detrimental to the company, except in the shape of words, was manifested at the meeting, but we were induced to make these remarks as a caution to shareholders against taking measures which are calculated to throw obstacles in the way of carrying out salutary modifications in the system of managing a large and prosperous undertaking.

To the indomitable energy of the *Times*, in procuring information on all subjects in which the commercial prosperity of this country is interested, are we indebted for one of the most valuable accounts of the gold prospects in British Columbia which the public has ever been favoured with. Although some private letters reached us on this subject (to one of which we have already referred), still we should be wanting in just appreciation of the admirable report of the *Times* correspondent, and in our duty to the mining community, did we omit to give, as far as our limits will allow, a synopsis of what may really be regarded as an authentic history of the present state of one of our most valuable dependencies. The letter, dated Victoria, Vancouver's Island, Dec. 17, commences with a very cheering description of the cold weather, which had then fairly set in; and "if the late severe weather," sums up the correspondent, "is the worst of the winter, the climate has no terror." One month is said to be the duration of the "true winter;" the rest of the season generally "wetish and mild," followed by an early spring.

The navigation of the Fraser River had been, but only for ten days, stopped by the ice. Reports of hardships endured by miners in the upper country from short rations were rife, but by no means authentic.

The richness of the localities referred to in former letters is still confirmed by more recent accounts. A difficulty of communication, natural to a new country, is complained of, but the Lillooet route, which will be completed during the ensuing summer, will establish an easy intercourse with the interior. On this point the provident course adopted by our Government in dispatching a corps of Sappers and Miners to British Columbia is highly appreciable. Returning miners establish the fact that had they been provisioned they could find no cause in the severity of a Columbian winter for quitting the sphere of their labours: this is a most important fact, and as the opening of the route referred to will enable stores of provisions to be supplied to the interior before the next winter there will be no occasion for those migrations of miners in search of the comforts of life which have now taken place. On Bridge River many of the miners are now making \$30 a day, and finer gold than the lower country workings yielded had been found here, and at the confluence of the Thompson and Fraser Rivers. "Chunks and flakes" of considerable size of the "coarse" gold have been sent to Victoria, and this description is estimated at a higher value than the gold dust, as it can be washed out without the amalgamation of quicksilver.

The steamer *Panama*, from Victoria to San Francisco, was reported to have foundered at sea, but the report was unauthenticated. Lighthouses on the coast are much required. Postal arrangements were rather unsatisfactory here, but, of course, all this will be remedied in time.

Referring to a correspondence in the *Victoria Gazette*, the information in which may be considered reliable, the report of the upper country mining ground was of the most favourable character. In some places the average

earnings of the miners was \$5 a day; in one place \$50 per hand was taken for several days successively. The appliances for washing are very defective; 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 dollars per diem have been, nevertheless, taken, and one band of French, Germans, and Italians, obtained in one day \$1500. The success was, of course, generally at a lower standard, and while perseverance insured it to some, the want of it gave place in others to discouragement and despondency.

And touching the MAGNITUDE OF THE GOLDFIELDS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, the auriferous deposits are now proved to be spread over a considerable range of country, for a continuous distance of 400 metres, or thereabout, have been discovered on the Fraser River. Other regions are also known to be auriferous, and daily important discoveries are being made, and the gold found in the vast tracts of the interior is of the finest quality. The "richness" of the mines, owing to the peculiar fineness of the gold, generally will depend upon the ingenious nature of the industry applied. Time improves the miner by giving him experience; and when a greater knowledge will have been acquired, a still greater development of resources will be the natural result.

The DURABILITY of the mines appears to be unquestionable, for the deposits are frequently found to exist from the surface to a great depth, and the yield there is considerable. In the words of the able correspondent of our contemporary, "The productiveness of the mines is now quite settled in the affirmative," and we may look upon this country as destined to become one of the most valuable acquisitions of the British empire.

The grant of 3000*t*. per trip, or 78,000*t*. a year, to the ATLANTIC ROYAL MAIL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, taken in connection with the 13,000*t*. a year subsidy from Newfoundland, places the Galway line in its true and proper position, and there is nothing now left save for the company to gratify public expectation, as we have no doubt they will do. The distance from Galway to America is another point to be taken into consideration in estimating the full advantages now enjoyed by the Atlantic Royal Steamship line. The voyage from Galway to St. John's will admit of the construction of faster vessels than have yet been built for transatlantic purposes, as it is evident that a much less quantity of coal will be needed for the run. The Galway line will possess an advantage over the Cunard in respect of the amount paid by the Government for each voyage, even supposing that no additional colonial subsidies are likely to be granted. It is also certain that each trip ought to cost less in proportion to the less distance to be performed. We trust now that the opponents of Galway as a packet station will yield to an established fact. It is probable that ere long weekly line from Galway will make cheap transatlantic postage an attainable object. For it is by increased and improved rapid and frequent transit that this important desideratum can be effected. The great benefits and advantages of this line will extend to every commercial town in Great Britain; but they will be first sensibly felt in Ireland. The Trade Returns of next year will credit the sister island to an amount that will probably astonish the non-believers, if any remain, in Ireland's progress and future prosperity. The present Government have undoubtedly done wise, just, and expedient thing in granting this subsidy, which will excuse Mr. LEVER's alleged exposition of his political principles being "the Galway Packet Station, and nothing but the station," in so far as the interests of the whole kingdom and our most important colonies are, in the end, just as much concerned as Galway itself.

SCHOOL OF MINES, BRISTOL.

On Monday afternoon Mr. H. Cossham, F.G.S., gave a lecture at this Institution on "The Geology of Gloucestershire." Mr. Cossham has evidently given very much attention to the mining geology of the county, as his lecture showed a thoroughly practical, as well as scientific, acquaintance with the subject. The lecture contained some important and practically useful facts relative to the geology and mining of the district, and some highly instructive and interesting information relative to the science of geology in general. A very useful feature of it was pointing out the best places in the county for the examination of the respective strata, and the local characteristic differences in the external appearance and fossil contents of the strata by which they may be most easily distinguished and recognised by the field student. It appears that in Gloucestershire alone the whole of the strata between the Caradoc sandstone (or what, as the lecturer observed, is undoubtedly the upper and lower Llandovery) and the Cornbrash, inclusive, are exposed, and may be studied in the field. There are about 1000 miles in area of carboniferous limestone, and from one to three-quarters of a mile in vertical thickness of coal measures. In Gloucestershire there are 62 pits, in Somersetshire 35, and in Devonshire 2 working lignite, making in the Bristol district a total of 99 pits for the working of coal.

THE MINING AND INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS OF CORNWALL.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN WEST CORNWALL.]

FEB. 23.—There is a tolerably brisk demand for shares both in tin and copper mines, and a considerable amount of business has been done. In the progressive mines those making calls are in most cases low in price, and in some few instances where, from increase of samplings and prospects, calls seem to be at an end, shares do not rise as might be expected. The fact, however, is that after a mine has been for a long period making calls, it requires not only a cessation of calls, but often a dividend or two to awaken the public to the value of the shares. The dividend shares are mostly very firm, and some of them are advancing. The prices obtained both for copper and tin ores are very encouraging. The copper standard rose again last week, and it is not improbable that another advance will take place at the ticketing to-morrow.

South Frances shares are firm at 230*t*; West Seton are also in request, as a dividend mine of the first-class. The adjacent mine, South Seton, continues to look promising, but time and outlay are required for development. Dolcoath shares are firmly held, and the mine is a sound investment. The meeting at Wheal Margaret was a very gratifying one to the adventurers; shares have gone up considerably in consequence of the mine looking so well and the increase of dividend. Rosewarne shares have also advanced, through the improved state of the mine. East Bassett has been in request, and have further advanced in consequence of the richness of the ores, the comparatively small cost, and the anticipation of increasing dividends. Wheal Clifford will resume dividends, if not at the next meeting at the following one. There is a splendid course of ore in the 208*fms*. level, which is driving through a lode producing 20 tons per *fim*, and a winze sunk below the 194 and holed to the 208, has produced, for the whole depth, about 15 tons per *fim*, whilst another winze, 13*fms*. further east, yields from 5 to 6 tons per fathom. The United Mines are also looking well, and very productive at several points, with much ground in the set to be yet explored. Wheal Providence shares are at about 72*t*. Wheal Charlotte is opening up a good mine, and shares are likely to advance.

Carn Breas have an upward tendency. East Carn Brea is very promising, and seems only to require time and some further outlay to make a mine. Tincroft shares have somewhat advanced. Wheal Ellen has improved, having a lode in the shaft worth 30*t*. per *fim*, and the samplings increasing. Cargoll is looking a little more promising, and, perhaps, at greater depth the adventurers may find their reward.

In the Stannaries Court, last week, there were two cases brought before the Vice-Warden involving questions of some importance to the mining interest. The following were their material points:—

In the suit of MICHELL v. CARR and BENNETT, the plaintiff was Mr. R. R. Michell, of Marazion, and the defendants were Mr. Carr and Mr. Absalom Bennett, the latter being well known from his connection with Tolvaenion Mine. The petition was filed with two objects:—1. To compel the lessee of the sett to work the mine according to covenant.—2. To prevent the defendants from removing an engine, machinery, &c., from the lands included within the limits of the sett. Defendants filed a demurrer to the petition; plaintiff, on the other hand, obtained an injunction to restrain the removal of machinery, &c. Defendants obtained a rule nisi to set aside the injunction; and both injunction and demurrer came on for argument at the same time. The sett in question was called the Mounts Bay Consolidated Mines; it was granted by several lords, and its extent from east to west was 459*fms*. There was a part of the sett called the Great Bevill field, extending about 25*fms*. from east to west. In 1852 this field belonged to Mr. Absalom Bennett, one of the present defendants, who was also owner of an undivided moiety of a field called the T Field, likewise included in the sett. Mr. Bennett, by lease dated October 9, 1852, granted these two fields for 21 years, for mining purposes, to Mr. Carr, the other defendant. Subsequently, Mr. Bennett sold the Great Bevill field to Mr. Field, and the latter sold it to the present plaintiff, Mr. R. R. Michell, who now brought his suit to compel specific performance of covenants contained in the lease, which he alleged had been broken.

In the lease, the defendant Carr covenanted for himself and assigns "to work the mine effectually at all times during the term, and every lode discovered therein, according to approved practice of good miners, and to the extent of the said limits; to erect such engines as may be necessary effectually to try the said limits, and continue to work them during the term; to keep in repair engine-houses and other buildings, and leave them in repair at the

determination of the term; to secure the adit, shafts, &c. within said limits, and deliver up the whole mine, in regular course of working, at the expiration of the term, and in good order for the further prosecution of it; together with such engines, whines, machinery, and materials as defendant Bennett or his assigns should desire, on paying a price to be fixed by arbitrators named, provided he or they should take the whole, and not part only." On the part of plaintiff, it was contended that, on the covenants of this lease, there must be throughout the whole term of 21 years a constant continuous working, and that, throughout the term, such engines as were necessary to try the ground must be kept to work. That the mine had only been worked to a 45*fms*. level, although defendants had created a 70-inch engine; and that, in the face of an explicit covenant to continue working, it was not sufficient for defendants to say that the mine being poor they would go no further, but would give up the machinery to the plaintiff, and if he did not choose to take it, they would do as pleased with it. This main argument was fortified by many minor ones. On the part of defendants, it was contended that there was no requirement by the lessor, or agreement by the lessee, that there was to be a constant digging of the bowels of the earth for 21 years; but that all the lease required was reasonably to try the mine and the lodes that might be discovered within the term. It was stated that of the 25,000*t*. expended in the mine generally, 22,000*t*. had been expended in exploring the Bevill field; that in every instance but one, the explorations commenced in the field had been carried beyond its limits, whilst in that one exception the works had reached within a few feet of the boundary. That the sett had, therefore, been worked according to the practice of good mining; that the returns were exceedingly small; that there was no hope of success from future operations; and that the machinery in this field had been offered to the lord, although (as it was contended), the defendants might have removed it into the T Field, which still belonged to Mr. Bennett. Various collateral and legal arguments were also submitted to the Court. The Vice-Warden gave judgment for defendants, on the ground that a court of equity cannot specifically enforce covenants to work mines or build houses. The covenants must enforce such covenants by action, or resort to the forfeitures contained in sets as usually drawn. With regard to the covenant by Carr to give to Bennett and his assigns the option of purchasing the machinery, &c. at the end of the term, the Vice-Warden was of opinion that this was a personal covenant between Carr and Bennett; it did not relate to the land, or the liberty granted; and the use of the word "assigns" was imperative to make the benefit of it run with the land to the assignees of Mr. Michell, who purchased from Bennett. If the acts done by Carr or Bennett amounted to actual waste, or impaired the freehold, or permanently injured the mineral property, an injunction might be obtained by the present owner, Mr. Michell, either with or without reference to the covenants; but the removal of machinery and materials had no such necessary effect. His Honor dismissed the petition, and dissolved the injunction, with costs.

The only remark I shall make on the above case is, that it shows how imperatively necessary it is that the parties who take a mining lease should look very strictly into its provisions; otherwise a sharp lawyer may so draw it that the unfortunate adventurers may be liable to an action when they find the mine unprofitable, and cease working it.

The other case, of importance through the questions raised therein to the mining community, was that of HAWKINS v. WHEAL GUSKUS. By a lease or sett dated May, 1851, Mr. Hawkins granted liberty to the adventurers to raise ore, &c., for 21 years, and to use a stream of water, paying 1*l*-18*t* dues and 50*t*. a year for the water; and there was a proviso that on these amounts being in arrear the lord might distrain, as in ordinary cases of rent in arrear. At Lady-day, 1858, 60*t*. became owing for dues and rent, but when, after repeated applications, a distress was attempted to be levied, it was found that the Stannary Court had taken possession for creditors on the day previous, and therefore the distress was inoperative. Notice of the claim was then served on the Registrar of the Court, and Mr. Hawkins now claimed to be paid either the whole of his arrears or one year's rent and dues as a landlord, under the statute of Anne. In opposition to this it was argued, on the part of the mine, that the lease was not a demise, but merely the grant of a right to take certain ores and use certain water, and the relations of landlord and tenant did not subsist; that plaintiff was not entitled to recover under the statute of Anne, because that referred solely to cases where the relations of landlord and tenant existed; that, although the landlord might, if he had distrained in time, have reaped the benefit of that distress, yet, having neglected to do so, he had lost his chance. Another point, and a very important one, submitted on the part of plaintiff, was that he was entitled to come in with the other creditors of the mine and prove his claim before the Registrar, and receive with them a proportionate dividend. This is a question which has never yet been decided in the Court of Stannaries, and its decision is naturally looked forward to with great interest by the lords of mining sets throughout the country. The advocate for plaintiff endeavoured to show, from record of the Court and modern cases, that the lord had a customary right as well as other creditors. He was replied to by the advocates on the other side, who contended to the contrary, and the Vice-Warden deferred judgment.

The question involved in the above case is a very important one. The advocate for plaintiff thus represented the consequences of an adverse decision to the right of the lord to prove his claim with other creditors. "If we were otherwise, the landlord must look only to his lessee personally, and to his power of distract; and in that case, instead of waiting his time with other creditors, and giving adventurers an opportunity to develop their mine, he would insist on receiving payment of his dues quarterly; and, in default, he would immediately sue his lessees or distrain. The consequence of that would be that merchants would follow the landlord's example, and would be unwilling to grant any credit; and thus many a mine would be stopped almost at its beginning, which, under other circumstances, might have gone on prosperously. Then, again, it was to be considered, that if the landlord was prevented coming in with other creditors, he would exercise his other rights to their full extent, and would thus get paid in full, to the detriment of merchant creditors. There would be a constant race between landlord and merchant creditor—the landlord insisting to be paid quarterly, and the merchant requiring almost cash payments."

The Vice-Warden issued decrees for payment against defaulting shareholders in Great Wheal Vor, Wheal Tremayne, and Great Wheal Badern; and a decree for sale of shares of several adventurers in Carvanall Mine, they being in debt for costs. Decrees for payment were also granted on creditors' petitions against Kit Hill, Wheal Mary, Warleggan Consols, and Okehampton Consols. In one case (Wheal Augusta) the Vice-Warden made an order for production of the books to a shareholder.

THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT AT WOLVERHAMPTON.]

FEB. 24.—There appears this week scarcely so hopeful a feeling amongst those engaged in the Iron Trade. Some are disposed so take a very gloomy view, and even to speak of the probability of blast-furnaces being extinguished, but the best makers have sufficient orders to keep them actively at work, although most describe the demand as being quiet. Very little pig-iron is being sold, as there is really little to sell, purchases having been generally made for a good part of the quarter. At the commencement of the year it was anticipated that at the next meeting of the trade, in March, the demand would justify the re-imposition of the 10*s*. per ton on manufactured iron, taken off in September, and that a further rise would take place in pig-iron, but these hopes appear to be no longer entertained.

In the Hardware Trades, most of the merchants and manufacturers complain of the demand being flat, but the workmen are kept pretty fully employed in most branches, especially in the tin manufactures. There is a good average demand for the home market, but generally the foreign orders, especially from the Continent, are of small amount. In the hollow ware trade there is some sign of improvement, this being the season for ordering for the fall delivery in Canada. The lock trade appears to be rather quiet, and generally the orders on hand are not large. The accounts from Birmingham represent trade there as tolerably active.

The colliers in the district where the last strike occurred have gone to work at the former rates on the expiration of their notices for an advance, but at Wednesbury and Darlaston the thin coal and ironstone miners are seeking a rise of 6*d*. per day. Meetings have been held there during the week, where a vigorous effort for the advance, and also for a ten hours' bill for the miners, has been advocated. The attendance has not been large, for the movement does not appear likely to lead to the advance being conceded.

At the Birmingham Bankruptcy Court, to-day, Mr. Commissioner Sanders gave judgment in the case of Mr. W. T. Riley, ironmaster, who failed for upwards of 250,000*t*. in November, 1857. His Honour strongly reprobated the neglect of the bankrupt to keep proper books, and awarded a certificate of the third-class, suspending its issue for three months.

On Wednesday, Henry Plant, a butty or chartermaster, was, on the information of Mr. Longridge, Mine Inspector, fined 5*t*. in each case for not supplying a copy of the special colliery rules to his men, and for not providing a D link for the skip, and a separate skip for the men to ascend and descend the shaft of the mine. Five persons, men and boys, descended a shaft in a skip which was used for raising materials, and which was in so wretched a state of repair that it broke asunder,

Son's colliery, near Willenhall, fortunately without causing any personal injury beyond a slight scald to the engineer, although the effect upon the engine-house showed the extreme force which the steam had acquired. Some of the plates were worn, and it was intended to replace them that day; but it can scarcely be doubted that there was a deficiency of water at the time. An ingenious apparatus to be fixed to boilers for the prevention of such casualties, the invention of Mr. Thomas Archer, jun., of Dunston, near Gateshead, is being introduced into the district. It consists essentially of a pipe leading from the box in which the safety-valve works to the fire of the boiler, and in case of the water falling below a certain level, or the steam rising beyond a certain pressure, the valve rises so as to allow the steam to escape through this pipe and be discharged upon the fire, which it would necessarily at once extinguish. In the first case, that of the water sinking below a certain level, the valve is raised by the action of a float. The contrivance appears ingenious and simple. As an illustration of the extreme ignorance and carelessness of the men often entrusted with the care of engines, it may be remarked that a gentleman of much practical experience observed, in reference to this invention, that it would be necessary to secure it by a cage, so as to render it impossible for the engineer to plug it, and thus prevent its action. Instances of similar conduct by engineers have often occurred in the district.

The ingenious machine for making horse-shoes, previously described in the *Mining Journal*, has since been brought more fully into action, and with the most satisfactory results. All who have seen it in operation appear satisfied as to its practical value. In addition to the features already described another has been brought into play, which the inventor regards, and apparently with good reason, as constituting a valuable improvement. It consists of two steel plates, the edges of which, by an ingenious modification of rotary motion, are made to press on each side against the edges of the shoe at the moment when the groove for the heads of the nails and the nail holes are being stamped. The pressure of these plates on the edges of the horse-shoe prevents its being bulged out by the stamping, and it has the further effect of leaving the edges smooth. This feature of the invention has not been applied to the machine which has been at work for nearly two years at Burden's works in America, and which has produced an immense number of horse-shoes. So many futile attempts have been made to produce horse-shoes by machinery, that there is a predisposition to distrust the practicability of any machinery having that object; but an inspection of Mr. Burden's invention, in operation at the Chillington Works, can hardly fail to remove such a prejudice, not to mention that the machine has been thoroughly tested in America; and that the inventor, instead of being simply the author of a series of contrivances which promised great results, has thriven by their practical success. The English patent for his "Rotatory Squeezier," for reducing puddlers' balls into blooms, was purchased many years ago by the late Mr. James Foster, of Stourbridge, one of the ablest of the South Staffordshire ironmasters, and is in constant operation at the extensive works in which his family have an interest, the Chillington Works being one of these. This apparatus is self-acting, and in addition to its value as a rapid and most efficient means of effecting the object in view, it forms an excellent check upon the puddler, for unless the balls are properly prepared it tears them to pieces. This was one of its great recommendations in the eyes of the late Mr. Foster, who stood pre-eminent for the quality of his iron; and on this account he dubbed it with the cognomen of the "Tell-tale."

Messrs. T. and R. Boot, of Burslem, have patented a new mode of manufacturing tessellated, inlaid, and other ornamental tiles. The process is thus described by the *Staffordshire Advertiser*:

"A mass of common red brick-clay is beaten into a mould of the required size, and after the removal of the mould the oblong block is cut by a series of parallel wires, at one process, into so many quarries of the requisite thickness. A surface coating for the quarry of finer clay, of the required colour, and about one-sixth of an inch in thickness, is obtained by a similar process, the wires in this case being placed so much closer together. The coating is then placed over the tile, which is put in a press, upon an iron plate, perforated in the form of the pattern intended to be imprinted. Underneath is a metal die, also in the shape of the design with which the tile is to be decorated. A 'bat' of fine clay, about an eighth of an inch thick, and of the required colour—colours, if the pattern is composed of more than one—is placed upon this die, which is then forced up by powerful mechanical pressure, and inlays the clay into the surface of the quarry above. After a few days' drying the quarries are scraped, to bring out the clear outline of the pattern; they receive a few days' further drying, and are then ready for the oven. It is said that by the processes previously used one man is expected to make about three dozen tiles per day; the tiles are a month or six weeks from the commencement of the making before they are ready for the oven; and the present price is about 15s. per yard, exclusive of the additional cost of laying floors composed of many small tiles. The new process employed by Messrs. Boot enables them to turn out with one machine, and four or five attendants, 100 dozen tiles per day; to get them in the oven in a week or ten days at the most; and to supply tiles of excellent quality and tasteful design at 8s. or 9s. per square yard."

The half-yearly meeting of the South Staffordshire Railway Company was held to-day at Birmingham, Mr. R. C. Chawner, Chairman of the company, presiding. As the line is leased for seven years to Mr. McClean, and in reversion to the London and North-Western Railway Company by an agreement, which a bill is now before Parliament to ratify, the proceedings possess little interest. The dividend under the lease has been, for the seven years ending August last, 4 per cent, and for the next seven years will be 4½ per cent., reverting to 4 per cent. under the provisions of the new lease at the close of that period. The Chairman stated that it was expected that the short line joining the Cannock branch to the Trent Valley at Rugeley would be open by June. This will prove a valuable means of transit for the important mineral district extending from Walsall to Rugeley.

REPORT FROM YORKSHIRE, DERBYSHIRE, AND LANCASHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

FEB. 24.—The reports of the position and prospects of the Iron Trade this week are highly satisfactory, and present indications of a good trade for a considerable time, unless disturbed by the political aspect of affairs on the Continent. The orders from America, which for a long period past have only been small, are now increasing, and occasioning a better state of things in the steel trade at Sheffield, which is rapidly improving in consequence. The enquiry for all descriptions of merchant iron is steady, and gradually improving, and all our works are in full operation. The rates established at quarter-day have been well maintained, and we hear very few complaints of the system of underselling, which has prevailed of late to a very considerable extent.

We have to report an improved demand for coal for manufacturing purposes, arising from the increased prosperity of our manufacturing trades. The rates are well maintained, and we hear no complaints of any deficiency of supply. Several new collieries in Yorkshire and Derbyshire are being opened, so that the supply will in a short time be much augmented.

In a recent Journal we noticed the completion of a shaft at Workop by the Duke of Newcastle to the top hard coal of Derbyshire, and which is sunk through a considerable thickness of the magnesian limestone, and several miles to the east of the present worked coal field of Derbyshire. The late Duke of Newcastle, by the advice of Mr. Woodhouse, the eminent mining engineer of the Midland Counties, first settled the question of the existence of the coal measures under the magnesian limestone near Workop. He completed a boring more than 300 yards deep, and found several beds of coal. It was on the faith of these borings that the Shire Oaks Colliery was established. Mr. Woodhouse is well known in this and several other mining districts for his enterprise, energy, and practical scientific attainments, which are manifest in undertaking to prove the existence of coal under the magnesian limestone formation, so opposed to the opinion of all practical men of the district. This spirited enterprise of the Duke of Newcastle is the offspring of our leading engineer in the Midland counties.

We hear it is contemplated to erect a foundry in Chesterfield, near the railway station. The capital is stated at 12,000*l.*, and about one-half is already promised by the projectors. We cannot see why a project of this kind should not prove a valuable undertaking if properly conducted.

The diminution in the productiveness of the Eyam Mine has had the effect of depressing the whole of the mining adventures in Derbyshire. Why it should do we are at a loss to imagine. The success of other adventures should not be depreciated by the decline of Eyam.

The Mill Dam Company are proceeding satisfactorily with the new shaft, which it is expected will be walled in in about a month. The engine bed, &c., is being superintended by Mr. R. France, of Sheffield, an experienced contractor, and the engine is by Messrs. Davy Brothers, engineers, of Sheffield, who have made some splendid pieces of machinery, and which have given great satisfaction.

The Mill Town Mine, at Ashover, is doing exceedingly well, and the men are raising some fine specimens of ore.

The Haslam Pipe Company, at Matlock, sold 1½ ton of ore, the produce of four men in a few weeks. The mine is, we understand, looking well.

Some alterations are being effected in the boilers of the New Midland Mine, at Ashover, with a view to a saving of fuel.

The North Derbyshire Company are sinking the new shaft, and putting the machinery and other works in a complete a position as possible.

The Roland Mining Company will make an allotment of the shares in the course of the ensuing week.

REPORT FROM NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

FEB. 24.—The events of the past week are devoid of special interest. The collieries generally are doing a good business, but we observe that at some of those on the Wear considerable heaps of coals are accumulating. The period is, however, approaching when the yearly engagements of the colliers terminate, and, consequently, the renewal of those agreements is a subject of much importance. We do not anticipate that there will be much excitement respecting those yearly bindings, or that any important change will be made in the present rate of wages. We have heard, indeed, of one instance on the Wear where the workmen have sent in to the owners a petition for an advance on the present rates; but the general feeling is certainly quiet on the subject.

The engine at the Hebburn Colliery has been again got to work, the damage having been repaired. At present there is 10 feet of water above the coal seam. The large new engine is expected to be got to work in two months from the present time. It is not expected that the works can be resumed until this engine is got into operation.

The works at the Felling Colliery have also been resumed. The damage caused by the boiler explosion there having been repaired, and three new boilers put in. Much difficulty is, however, met with in the workings from water. Rumours have been current lately respecting meetings having been held of the parties interested in the lifting of this water, but no understanding appears to have been as yet arrived at.

The half-yearly meeting of the North-Eastern Railway Company was held at York on Friday, when the proposition to amalgamate that company with the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway was carried almost unanimously. A meeting of the shareholders of the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway Company was held on the same day, when a similar proposition was made. But then the result was somewhat different, as much opposition was given to this by a portion of the shareholders, and a discussion of four hours' duration ensued, ending finally in the motion being shelved until the annual meeting, which is to be held in March. There is evidently a strong feeling amongst the shareholders, which is also shared to some extent by the general public, against this amalgamation. It is a step which ought not to be hastily adopted, and we trust that at any rate the subject will be thoroughly ventilated before any decision is arrived at. It certainly would appear that this railway (that is the Newcastle and Carlisle) contains all the elements of success within itself as a distinct line, if it were conducted in a spirited manner; and this proposed amalgamation has much the appearance of a monopoly, which would not tend to the interests of the shareholders, or to those of the general public.

The Jarrow Docks are to be fully opened for traffic on March 3. It is anticipated that there will be a great saving of expense in the shipment of coals by the improvements introduced at those works. The cost of shipping coals at the present Brindley drops is 7d. per ton, while the estimated cost of the same process at the new docks is to be only 2d. per ton. This will effect a saving of from 8000*l.* to 10,000*l.* per annum. Mr. Harrison, the engineer, states that in those docks vessels drawing 20 feet of water can be loaded at the worst tides, and at spring tides vessels drawing 24 feet; that, in fact, the largest vessels crossing the Atlantic can be loaded here. The directors have decided to present Mr. Harrison with a piece of plate of the value of 250*l.*, and also the sum of 100*l.*, in consideration of his services in connection with the construction of these docks.

The French Consul here has notified to Mr. John Bowes and partners that his Government has included the Ravensworth West Hartley coal amongst the steams coals to be supplied to the French navy, satisfactory reports having been made after trials at Cherbourg. This coal is worked at the Seaton Burn Colliery, which is situated at the western part of the great steam-coal district. The workings have been lately much enlarged, and a large quantity of coal is now worked. This firm is one of the largest in the district, and they are extensively engaged in working coal of every description, and also in the making of coke.

REPORT FROM MONMOUTHSHIRE AND SOUTH WALES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN SOUTH WALES.]

FEB. 24.—The general condition of the Iron and Coal Trades has undergone so little change since our last, that it is needless to enter into lengthened comments. Most of the large works are pretty well supplied with orders, and a steady enquiry exists for iron of all descriptions. Railway iron is being sent away in large quantities to the Continent, the demand both from France and Russia being good. From America not many fresh orders have been received, although the old connections are being revived. Freights at the present moment range as follows:—*Coal*: Aden, 50s.; Bombay, 50s. to 55s.; Calcutta, 50s. to 52s. 6d.; Ceylon, 40s.; Cape of Good Hope, 35s. to 39s.; Hong Kong, 50s., to 55s.; Mauritius, 40s. to 45s.; Rio Janeiro, 34s. to 38s.; Rio Grande, 30s. to 32s. 6d.; Madeira, 14s.; Smyrna, 18s. to 18s. 6d.; Venice, 18s.; Athens, 19s.; Constantinople, 17s. 6d.; Gibraltar, 15s. 6d.; Liverpool, 6s.; London, 8s. 3d.; Portsmouth and Southampton, 7s. 6d.—*Iron*: Bueno Ayres, 40s.; Constantinople, 23s.; Havannah, 25s.; Naples, 23s.; New York, 18s.; Smyrna, 23s. to 24s.; Trieste, 24s. to 25s.

The steam coal trade is still rather dull, and house and coking coal sells but slowly. This is attributed, in a great measure, to the unfavourable state of the wind, which prevents vessel going on their voyages. The Newport coalowners have yielded to the remonstrances of the press, and reduced their prices for coal at the rate of 1s. per ton. It is now selling at the wharves at 9s. 6d. instead of 10s. 6d. The Dock Company have also decided to reduce their rates on coasting vessels immediately, but it is alleged that they are unable to make any further alteration until a meeting of the proprietaries have been held. It is to be hoped the trade will soon begin to revive, although much remains to be done on the part of the authorities before any very decided reaction can take place.

The reports and meetings of the local railway companies present sufficient evidence of the falling off which took place last year in the iron and coal trades. A general decrease in their receipts is the unpleasant consequence of this, and lower dividends have been paid. During the last half-year, ending December 31, the receipts on the South Wales line were, 173,677*l.* 17s. 6d., as compared with 188,505*l.* 5s. 1d. during the same period of 1857. "This result," says the directors, "is attributable, in a great measure, to the depression of the iron and coal trades, which have revived but little during the half-year; and also to the increased competition caused by the extreme lowness of the freights for shipping. It is satisfactory, however, to observe that some improvement has taken place in the traffic receipts; and from the intimations which have been received from some of the largest coal freighters upon the railway, the directors believe that are justified in looking forward to the resumption of more active operations during the current year." The Chairman, at the meeting of the shareholders, also assigned as a reason for the diminution the low rates of freight. "Iron," he said, "after getting to Cardiff or Swansea, instead of coming into London by rail, was first taken by sea to Bristol, and then round the Land's End, and this for 6s. 6d. per ton. It is clear, however, that this can only be done at a loss on the part of shippers."

The Vale of Neath Company have suffered in a similar manner. The passenger traffic, we are informed, had fallen off 18 per cent., and this is attributable to the reduction of wages in the large colliery works at Aberdare and Merthyr Tydfil. "The workmen," said the Chairman, "having less to spend, travelled less, and hence the decrease. Next to this was the falling off in the coal trade, and the depressed state of the shipping interests, which, coupled with the falling off of the iron ore traffic, had affected their returns to a very considerable extent. This depression, he believed, was but of a temporary character, and he looked to the completion of the Briton Ferry Docks as the most feasible means of checking the effects of such depression, and of lessening, though he did not expect it would prevent altogether, those fluctuations in trade to which all railways were liable. Another falling off, though not considerable, was that of iron ore traffic. The iron trade had been bad, and the traffic considerably low, and it had been, during the past half-year, somewhat smaller than the improving trade would seem to justify."

The Penydarren Works, Merthyr, have been disposed of by Mr. Wm. Henry Forman to the Dowlaus Company. The works consist of six blast-furnaces, with puddling-furnaces, rolling mills, &c., and the mineral work-

ings run parallel with those of Dowlaus. The owners of the cottage property in the neighbourhood having heard a report that the blast-furnaces would be blown out and the mill stopped, sent a requisition to petition Mr. Forman to consider their interests in any arrangements he might make for the transfer of the works. Mr. Forman, in his reply, says:—"The report is quite correct that I have arranged with the Dowlaus Iron Company for the transfer to them of the mineral field of the Penydarren Iron Company, under lease from the trustees of the Marquis of Bute. I trust the fears entertained by the lessors are, to a great extent, groundless, as I expect the number of men in the employment of the Dowlaus Company will be so much increased that there will be tenants in a short time for all the houses that are built on the Gelliadog estate. I have already mentioned the subject to the Dowlaus Company, and I am assured they will do all in their power to lessen any loss that may unavoidably arise from the change."

A contract for railway and dock works at Penarth has been given to Messrs. Smith and Knight, of London, who are perhaps the largest contractors in England, having at present in hand contracts to the amount of 7,000,000*l.* sterling. The amount of the tender is 300,000*l.* The Penarth Harbour Railway will shortly be opened, and great convenience to coal-owners and ironmasters will result.

The directors of the Taff Vale Railway say, in their report:—"The directors have subscribed 250*l.* to enable the Aberdare Steam Coal Association to conduct a series of experiments by competent and authorised Government officers, for ascertaining the comparative value of Welsh and North of England steam coals. The results of these experiments are not yet officially announced, but the directors are informed that they confirm the report on the subject made to Parliament by Sir Henry de la Beche and Dr. Lyon Playfair."

At Tredegar a new blast-engine is about to be erected. It will be of sufficient power to supply six furnaces with blast. The steam cylinder is 57 in. in diameter, the blast cylinder 144 in., and the stroke will be 12*f.* The large beam will be 42 feet long. An accident occurred to the machinery of the Quick Pit last week, by which a temporary stoppage was occasioned. Messrs. T. Powell and Son are understood to be reaping great success with their "New Tredegar Pit": 7 yards below the thick coal vein, now working, they sank through another celebrated and valuable vein. This regard is well deserved, as great enterprise has been displayed by the firm.

A most disastrous boiler explosion took place on board the *Black Eagle* steam-tug in the lock of the East Dock, Cardiff, on Tuesday morning. The steamer was the property of Messrs. T. Elliott and Co., shipbrokers, and had only arrived from London that morning. She was tugging a vessel out of the dock, but hardly moved when the boiler burst with great violence, and huge masses were flung many yards distant. A number of blast tubes, 3½ in. in diameter, and 7 ft. 7 in. in length, were scattered in all directions, and a piece of iron, weighing upwards of 1 cwt., was propelled 150 yards. The captain of the tug and seven other men were either killed on the spot, or died in a few hours afterwards, and the body of one has not been found up to the present time. The coroner's inquest has not yet been held, and we are, consequently, unable to state the exact cause of the disaster, but it is believed that the engineer was in fault, the water being too low in the boiler. Some reliable particulars will, however, be obtained in time for our next report. One or two accidents of a trivial nature have occurred at the works this week.

MANUFACTURE OF CAST-STEEL.

It seems to be the fixed determination of inventors to discover a process for producing cast-steel from iron at one operation. From time to time modifications of the Bessemer process and of the Uchatus process have been patented, yet it is difficult to believe that if the original be unsuccessful the modifications could remedy the defect. An invention has just been patented by Mr. Broome, for a correspondent, which, it appears, is intended as an improvement upon the Uchatus process, as the chief alteration seems to be that the iron to be operated upon is treated in fragments instead of granules. In the specification of the patent it is stated that the object of the invention is to produce cast-steel from iron of any description at one operation; it consists in cementing, in a suitable crucible or furnace, fragments of iron or steel of any description by means of a mixture composed of oxide of iron or of manganese, carbon (either plain or hydrogenated, such as resin or soot), and potash, soda, lime, alumina, or other alkaline or earthy material in the state of an oxide or a salt. In order to produce the required reactions between these substances it is necessary to mix them intimately by means of water or some other suitable solvent and to spread them as uniformly as possible among the fragments of iron and steel; or, instead of uniformly spreading the mixture in this manner, the substances may be placed in layers in the crucible or furnace. The carbon impregnated with the oxides and the salts is not affected by the air, but combines intimately with the iron or steel. The combination is favoured by the nascent state of the carbon and by the electric action set up by the oxides or salts. The remainder of the process is conducted as before. The quantities of carbon and of oxides of iron and manganese, as well as the number and quantities of the alkaline or earthy materials requisite to the efficient performance of the invention, vary considerably with the variable nature of the metals operated on and of the product desired, so that no specific amounts can be fixed upon as the best in all cases; but, as an example, it may be stated that to convert iron or steel of inferior quality into good cast steel about 3 per cent. of alkaline material and from 24 per cent. to 3 per cent. of carbon or carbonaceous matter, such as resin or soot, may be used.

LEGITIMATE MINING AS AN INVESTMENT.

BY JOHN ROBERT PIKE.

In the month of October, 1858, we said that our principal object in writing this series of papers was to assert the claims of British mine shares (if not to precedence at least to equality) with more favoured public securities, and, if possible, to contribute to the promotion of a healthy return of public confidence in this particular description of joint-stock property. Having directed attention to the exceptional position in which the share markets in general then stood, values being low, notwithstanding the cheapness of money, owing to the distrust engendered in the public mind by the fatal consequences of the great commercial panic from which we were just emerging, and having commented with some degree of severity on the carelessness with which some correspondents of the *Mining Journal* treated the subject of share dealing, by which a false impression of the value of mine shares as an investment was conveyed to the non-professional reader, we spoke of the necessarily false conclusions which must follow from a comparison of the *Mining Journal* with the Stock Exchange in respect of the modes in which their business is relatively conducted. It was shown that there were certain peculiarities properly belonging to British mining, which rendered it impossible to treat the shares similarly to railway or other stock; and a hope was expressed that when the peculiar individuality of shares in our home mines was better understood, mining for copper, lead, and tin would receive from the public that proper consideration and support to which we considered it unquestionably entitled; and in order to prove that the industry for which we were contending was not retrogressive in its character, we exhibited as the result of 10 years' retrospective that the value of labour being equal, metals had very much advanced, and the prices of leading materials very considerably fallen during that period. The uncertain status which British mining has with the investing public necessarily led to an investigation into the probable existing causes contributing to the maintenance of this most unsatisfactory state of things—our comments in this branch of the general subject embraced the trickery of species mine nomenclature; the resuscitation of abandoned mines simply on the authority of tradition; and the continued working of mines after their worthlessness had been fairly proven; the frequent stoppage of most promising adventures, owing to the patience of shareholders becoming completely exhausted by an apparently endless series of calls, a remedy being suggested in the subscription of a share capital of respectable amount at starting, which would not only obviate the necessity for continuous calls but create a property independent altogether of the richness or poorness of the mine; the unhealthy stimulus imparted to the share market by the operations of the "bulls" and "bears;" the extraordinary fluctuations in the market prices of shares, which were shown to arise principally from the operation of causes intimately connected with the peculiar genius of mining property, and over which the gentlemen of the mining market and the managers of mines, however well disposed, could have no possible control;

and the want of wide-spread publicity for mining intelligence. On this head we enlarged to an extent proportionate to its importance, and we record with pleasure the growing disposition evinced by the managers of the public press to give to British mine shares in their daily and weekly impressions a fair and equitable *expose*. Much yet remains to be done, however, in this department, more particularly in the daily report of prices; there cannot exist any sound reason why the report of one journal should differ materially from that in another, the only requisites to ensure correctness being a little more trouble and care in the collection of the necessary information. The constitution and management of mining companies have received from us a fair share of attention, and in the discussion of this department the relative merits of the Cost-book System and the Joint-Stock Companies Act (limited) have been freely canvassed, as well as the political signs of the times, as regards their bearing on British mine shares, in the event of a rupture of the peace of Europe.

It will be seen from a perusal of the foregoing *resume* of the leading subjects discussed in these papers, that our aim has been to deal with principles directly influencing the public position and progressive development of British mining as a great national industry; whether any good has resulted to the commonwealth of mine shareholders we know not, but of this we are satisfied, that in view of the ground already traversed their continuance, emanating, as they do, from a private individual, can subserve no useful purpose. What we intended to do has been accomplished, and in future, unless under exceptional circumstances, our communications to the *Mining Journal* will refer more particularly to passing events, both in the share market and at the mines. The last five months has been a period instinct with mining progress, many discoveries of first-rate importance have been made during that time, and we think that the most sceptical opinions on the soundness of mining must yield before the convincing argument of the following statistics. We have taken a few of the dividend and progressive mines from the Share List of the *Mining Journal*, ascertained the mean of the buying and selling quotations in October, 1858, and February, 1859, and the following is the result:

| DIVIDEND MINES: | Mean Quotations—Oct., 1858. | Feb., 1859. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Carn Bras | £ 52 10 0 | £ 72 10 0 |
| Craddock Moor | 25 10 0 | 29 10 0 |
| Dolcoath | 167 10 0 | 305 0 0 |
| Granbler and St. Aubyn | 67 0 0 | 93 0 0 |
| Herodfoot | 6 7 6 | 8 0 0 |
| Providence | 63 10 0 | 77 0 0 |
| South Caradon | 397 10 0 | 450 0 0 |
| South Tolgas | 74 0 0 | 78 15 0 |
| South Frances | 192 10 0 | 227 10 0 |
| St. Ives Consols | 29 10 0 | 105 0 0 |
| United Mines | 84 10 0 | 118 15 0 |
| Wendron Consols | 34 10 0 | 41 0 0 |
| West Seton | 287 10 0 | 329 10 0 |
| Wheel Bassett | 202 10 0 | 227 10 0 |
| Wheel Charlotte | 1 8 9 | 4 5 0 |
| Wheel Margaret | 29 0 0 | 50 0 0 |
| Wheel Trelawny | 25 10 0 | 32 0 0 |
| PROGRESSIVE MINES: | | |
| Bryntail | 4 2 6 | 10 15 0 |
| Conduor | 57 10 0 | 78 15 0 |
| Cargol | 7 0 0 | 12 0 0 |
| Cook's Kitchen | 4 15 0 | 5 15 0 |
| Copper Hill | 83 15 0 | 102 10 0 |
| Creake | 0 18 9 | 2 2 6 |
| East Bassett | 96 5 0 | 225 0 0 |
| East Tolgut | 53 10 0 | 66 10 0 |
| East Trefusis | 3 3 9 | 5 5 0 |
| East Russell | 5 15 0 | 21 0 0 |
| Gonamena | 5 7 6 | 6 7 6 |
| North Rosecar | 18 5 0 | 31 0 0 |
| Rosewarne | 31 0 0 | 69 0 0 |
| Tolcarne | 0 8 0 | 0 18 6 |

Many improvements in the share market have in the interim not been sustained, but taking the above List as it stands, we challenge the opponents of British mining to exhibit like results in any other branch of the stock and share market, or even anything approaching to it in a remunerative sense. It has been our good fortune to keep the bulk of the fore-going adventures steadily before the attention of our friends, and for the prizes thus gained we have been frequently congratulated. In one paper of this series, when discussing the apparently extraordinary fluctuations in prices, we stated that the public must continue to look to their agents for early information from the mining districts; an opinion which we would reiterate, not from any desire to exaggerate the claims of our order, but rather from a knowledge of the difficulties which have to be surmounted in the collection and rapid transmission of reliable news. In order to afford such facilities to that portion of the public who honour us with their patronage, we intend immediately to publish a Price Current of British Mines, supported by the most perfect Cornish organisation obtainable, the particulars of which will be found in the advertising columns of this impression of the *Mining Journal*. Our aim has been to promote loyalty the welfare of "One and All," and we trust and believe that legitimate mining as an investment will continue to progress in public favour, notwithstanding the dicta of the unreasoning, and the limpid sophistry of the malevolent.

PEAT FUEL.—(From a Correspondent.)—Although no one can accuse the Irish Peat Company of want of perseverance, yet it must be allowed that their progress has been most unsatisfactory; nearly the whole of the large capital has been expended, yet no dividend has been paid. Many patented inventions, both English and foreign, have been tried, but nothing has been continued long enough to enable a just decision to be given as to which are valuable and which are not. It may be objected that each of these inventions have required some time to develope them, and that, therefore, there is some excuse for the course pursued, and presuming that this objection will be raised, the *Mining Journal* during the past few months furnishes details of several inventions the success or failure of which could be ascertained immediately, and one just patented by Mr. Mercier of Paris, appears to be of this description, so that it is certainly worth the consideration of the Irish Peat Company. According to Mr. Mercier's invention the peat is first cut from the ground by means of any convenient spade or cutting tool, but the apparatus which he prefers to employ consists of a tool or cutter having four cutting edges: to this tool a descending motion is imparted, whereby it is caused to enter the peat, and divide or separate it by its four cutting edges, so as to enclose a cube of peat within it. Another cutter then comes into action, and by passing along the base of the tube, severs it from the ground, when the cutters are elevated, carrying with them the detached cube of peat. The apparatus may be fixed on a framing mounted on wheels, which travels on suitable rails or tramways. The peat is now to be dried, which is effected by enclosing it in bags, baskets, or other receptacles of a porous nature, which are to be placed in any convenient centrifugal machine, and the moisture is then expelled by the action of centrifugal force. The peat is subsequently placed in a vessel which revolves on a vertical centre or pivot, and within which rotates a series of arms or agitators, whereby all the particles of the peat are thoroughly well mixed and stirred up. From this machine the peat may pass to a pair of vertical millstones, whereby it is crushed and thoroughly pulverised. The peat having been sufficiently prepared by the millstones is forced by the action of scrapers down a central passage into suitable pressing and moulding machines. He prefers for this purpose to use a cylindrical receiver, fitted internally with a revolving archimedean screw, which constantly forces out the peat through a discharge pipe at the opposite end of the cylinder, to that at which the peat enters from the mill. It is important, however, that the discharge pipe should be of a sufficient length to ensure the compressed peat retaining the particular conformation which has been imparted to it by the aperture through which it is forced by the screw or other pressing appliances. He also proposed to manufacture hollow or perforated blocks of peat fuel by placing within the die or discharge pipe one or more internal core pieces, similar to what are used in the manufacture of drain pipes or perforated bricks, by which means an improved form of combustible is obtained. After being thus pressed and moulded, the blocks or articles are carried forward on endless travelling bands to suitable drying stoves, heated by the waste gases from the ovens used for carbonising the peat.

RAILWAYS IN CHILI.—The quarterly dividend of 4 per cent. on the shares of the Copiapo Railway Company, declared at Copiapo on Oct. 2, is advertised for payment. It is also announced that at a meeting of shareholders, held at Copiapo on Jan. 1, a quarterly dividend of 4 per cent. was declared, together with a bonus of 10 per cent. on the capital.—The permanent way of the Copiapo Extension Railway (the highest in the world) has been laid throughout the entire way, and Mr. W. Evans, the engineer, reports that the fencing round the Chanarcillo Terminus Station and the goods depot, with the other buildings at the station, are rapidly progressing. On Jan. 8, Mr. Taggart, the locomotive superintendent of the Copiapo Railway, made a trial trip over the extension line with perfect success, and carried the locomotive to the summit of the line, gaining an altitude of 1450 feet higher than any summit ever previously reached by a locomotive. The engine in question was one which had been running for several years. It has four driving-wheels coupled, and of 5 ft. diameter; the cylinders 13 in. diameter, and 26 in. stroke. It has worked during the greater portion of the distance with steam under 100 lbs. pressure, and expensively cutting off at half-stroke. The heaviest gradient on the line is 250 ft. to the mile, or 1 in 22. The line is expected to be opened in a few weeks. It is to be under the same management in all respects as the Copiapo line, the traffic upon which is so remunerative that it pays the shareholders quarterly dividends of 4 per cent., making 16 per cent. per annum.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF STEAM-BOILER EXPLOSIONS.—At the monthly meeting of the committee, on Tuesday, the chief inspector (Mr. H. W. Harman) presented his report, from which the following are extracts:—We have at this date 490 mills and other works and 1327 boilers under inspection. Since January 28 we have visited 177 members, and examined 427 boilers and 371 engines. Of these five visits have been special, and four boilers specially examined, also 18 boilers have been internally and 18 thoroughly examined: 137 diagrams have been taken from 64 cylinders, and copies forwarded to members with those suggestions for the general improvement of the engines which the indications appeared to render necessary. The number of boilers found defective are as under:—Corrosion, 20, 8 dangerous; fractures, 13, 1 dangerous; safety-valves overweighted and otherwise out of order, 24, 3 dangerous; pressure gauges out of order, 24; water-gauges out of order, 8; blow-off cocks out of order, 23, 1 dangerous; deficiency of water, 2: total, 114; and 18 dangerous: 12 boilers were also

without blow-off cocks; 8 without glass gauges; and 8 fusible plugs were inoperative from being placed in the wrong position; 1 from being coated with hard scale. In some instances it is to be regretted that the recommendations we are called upon to make in reference to repairs are not carried out so readily as might be. In one case lately, neglect of the precautions pointed out led to an accident during the night, but fortunately resulting only in injury to the boiler, and temporary stopping of the works. We have also found a large number of safety-valves with the spindles passed through stuffing-boxes, and in one establishment three were also stuck fast, so much so that the inspector had to use his utmost strength to the levers to force them open.

STEAM-BOILER ASSURANCE COMPANY.

We have looked forward with some anxiety to the complete registration and commencement of the operations of a company whose preliminary advertisements, some months ago, appeared in our Journal, and the novelty of which, combined with the evident advantages it offered, received at that time our warmest approval. We allude to the Steam-Boiler Assurance Company, whose first complete advertisement will be found in our columns this day. We say we looked with anxiety for this result, because we were well aware that even in the most experienced hands great difficulties must in the present day necessarily be thrown in the way of forming a joint-stock company, especially an insurance company, which could not be registered under the Limited Liability Act. We have reason to know that such has been the case with the formation of this society, and nothing short of Manchester perseverance and determination to overcome every obstacle would have enabled this company to ride in the comparatively smooth waters of an ample subscribed capital, and with a list of names on its executive that is a sufficient guarantee of the mode in which its operations will be conducted. We need scarcely allude to the names of the trustees, except to remark that the two well-known practical business members for Manchester (one especially well known in the case of the *Wooden enquiry*) are not likely to lend their names to any society whose principles did not in their judgment deserve support, and to a body of directors whose business qualifications were not well known to them. The board of trustees, a small one—a great advantage where work is to be done—is eminently practical. The names of Mr. B. Fothergill and Mr. W. McNaught, the patentees, are too well known to our engineering friends to need comment, as ranking amongst the first men in their profession; whilst Mr. Galloway, one of the firm of our largest boiler-makers, supported by Mr. Leeming, an extensive worsted-spinner, of Manchester, and Mr. Haworth, a private gentleman and active member of the Town Council, add to the engineering element a valuable knowledge of general business, conducted on an extensive scale. The company have been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. R. B. Longridge as chief engineer. It is doubtful whether in inspection of steam-boilers any gentleman in the profession has had so much experience, his position for four years in the same capacity with the Manchester Prevention Society giving him unusual facilities for this class of knowledge. As secretary, the directors have appointed Mr. J. Cox, one of the active promoters of the society, and who having been for many years branch manager and accountant with the National Provincial Bank of England, may undoubtedly be considered well fitted for this position. Whilst the formation and superintendence of the many agencies of the company have been entrusted to Mr. W. Hannan, who jointly with the last-named gentleman has worked indefatigably in the formation of the society, and who now will undertake scarcely less important duties; for it must be remembered that the great success of a company of this kind must be in its distribution of risks over a wide surface, and obtaining a sufficient number of such risks to cover a necessarily considerable expenditure in the proper inspection of the boilers insured. The most prominent portions of the prospectus of the society being given in the advertisement, we shall only draw attention to one or two points that seem specially deserving of notice. It alludes to the establishment of this society, as a check upon any idea that may be entertained in some quarters of enforced Government inspection. We fully believe it will thus operate, and on this ground alone we think commands the attention and support of all millowners and employers of steam power. The premiums charged, including as they do a necessary efficient inspection, appear to us extremely moderate; and the life tables should certainly be adopted by every millowner. For 1s. per head per annum 50/- would be secured in all ordinary cases to the widow or children of any poor person who might be the victim of one of these calamitous explosions—a sum that would oftentimes keep them from the workhouse, and render them no burden to their friends. If it were not for the Government duty this sum would only be one-half, or 6d. per head; and we trust that steps may be taken by the company to endeavour to obtain some modification, or even repeal, of this tax, for the benefit of the prudent but poorer portion of the community. We think that if this could be accomplished few millowners would hesitate themselves to pay 6d. per head per annum as a matter of philanthropy, if not of personal benefit.

We conclude by stating we are glad to hear formal proposals on upwards of 100 boilers have, during the last fortnight, been made to the company in anticipation of the commencement of working, and that the promises of support already given will afford full occupation to the staff of inspectors for the next two or three months. We say we heartily wish it God speed.

In the COAL MARKET, during the week, a large amount of business has been doing at a considerable reduction in last week's prices; there was a good supply of every description of coal, upwards of 500 ships having been placed in the market, of which number only 95 were left unsold, the closing prices being—Best Wallsend, 17s. 6d. to 17s. 9d.; second quality, ditto, 15s. 3d. to 16s. 6d.; manufacturers', 14s. 6d. to 15s.; and Hartley's, 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.

EXPORTS OF COAL IN JANUARY.—From Messrs. Laird and Co.'s Statistics of the Coal Trade, it appears that the total exports last month were 293,992 tons, which was an increase, as compared with the corresponding period last year, of 8050 tons; and a decrease, as compared with the preceding month, of 87,085 tons. During January the northern ports exported 137,082 tons—an increase as compared with the corresponding period last year of 9833 tons; Yorkshire ports, 17,454 tons—increase, 3099 tons; Liverpool, 30,290 tons—decrease, 7243; Severn ports, 94,373 tons—decrease, 13,331; Scotch ports, 14,793 tons—decrease, 10,970 tons.

COAL CONTRACT.—The Admiralty require tenders for 400 tons of South Wales coal, for Bathurst, River Gambia—March 8.

RAILWAY CONTRACTS.—The Madrid and Zaragoza Railway Company require tenders for the supply of 2420 tons rails, 48 tons fish-plates, 23 tons joint-plates, 13 tons bolts, 2 tons spike screws, 5 iron girders, and 8 locomotive engines, all for the construction of the railway.

In SALIFPETRE, during the past week, there has been more activity, prices showing a decided tendency to improve; we note sales of 3600 bags of Bengal, 3½ to 4 per cent. refraction, 42s. 6d.; 6½ to 7½ per cent. refraction, 41s.; 8½ per cent. refraction, 40s. 6d.; also 400 bags, 3½ per cent. refraction, on private terms; and 500 for arrival, Jan. shipment, at 40s. During the past week 394 tons have been landed, and 313 tons delivered, leaving the stock in hand 2880 tons against 547 at the same period last year.

The AUSTRALIAN JANUARY MAIL, which in ordinary course would be due in London in the middle of next week, is not expected to arrive for another week, in consequence of the detention of the Ocean steamer at Sydney for a similar period. This circumstance, however, may give the several colonies an opportunity of replying to it to the advices from England by the November mail; but, on the other hand, it is not probable that the coming mail will be to hand before the departure of the outward Australian mails on the 12th and 16th inst., on which occasion the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Packet Company commence the new Australian postal contract.

At the English and Australian Copper Company meeting, on Monday (Sir William Foster, Bart., in the chair), the report of the directors and accounts, which showed a profit of 5170L. 14s. 8d., only, were received and adopted; the small profit being accounted for by the low price of copper. Sir C. Rich was re-elected a director; Mr. Bentwick was appointed auditor, and a distribution from the assets of the company of 2s. 6d. per share in lieu of dividend was agreed to, payable on Monday, March 14. Thanks were voted to the committee of conference, and it was resolved that they should continue in office for another year. A detailed report of the meeting will be found in another column.

At the Scottish Australian Investment Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. W. H. Dickson in the chair), the resolution authorising the creation of 5L. preference stock to the extent of 200,000L., was carried unanimously.—The Chairman, in proposing the resolution, stated that although the board wished the meeting to create 200,000L. preference stock, they by no means contemplated issuing anything like that amount in the first instance, but that they would be guided in issuing it by the opportunities that may present themselves of investing additional capital advantageously. At the request of the proprietors present, the directors gave the assurance that they would not issue more than 100,000L. of the stock without previously obtaining the sanction of the proprietary for so doing at a general meeting. In the course of a very lengthened discussion upon the advisability of issuing the new shares, Mr. Ward complained that in the report issued by the directors, and purporting to be a report of what took place at the last meeting, his case had been most unfairly represented, his statements had been disjointed and made nonsense of; in fact, he was sorry to say that every argument in favour of the directors was fully set forth, and anything against them kept back. He did not make this charge so much for himself as that he thought such hackneyed reports were calculated to prejudice him in the eyes of the shareholders at a distance whom he represented.—The Chairman assured Mr. Ward that there was no such intention as he had implied, but remarked that, of course, the report circulated was only a condensation of what had occurred.—Mr. Anderson thought that the course proposed was altogether wrong. It was a solvent company borrowing money.—The Chairman explained that it was the genius of the company to acquire at a low rate and dispose of at a high rate. Mr. Morehead stated that they did not intend to extend their present business unless very gradually, but that additional capital could be profitably employed. He should always bear in mind that the further from their centre the greater must be the inducement to embark in any investment. A shareholder had referred to the profits realised by the sale of the Bon Accord and Good Hope properties as not being legitimate profits, but he contended they were so, because whatever property they might hold they should consider that year by year it was increasing in value.—A shareholder remarked that Mr. Morehead had been eighteen years in their service, and had never made a bad investment, which was a sufficient guarantee, he thought, that they could trust the new capital in his hands.—Mr. Morehead expressed his willingness to confer with the directors respecting the appointment of trustees in the colony, if it were considered desirable. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.—We are glad to state there is again some prospect of this concern being brought to a close, so far as the main body of the contributors are concerned, though at a heavy sacrifice. On Saturday the Master of the Rolls approved of the compromise with the large creditors at 12s. 6d. in 12s., and on Thursday another call of 5L. per share was made. Proceedings are going on to bring in more contributors.

WEEKLY LIST OF NEW PATENTS.

GRANTS OF PROVISIONAL PROTECTION FOR SIX MONTHS.—J. HONEYMAN, Glasgow, N. B.: Construction of ships, vessels, and boats, and in propellers for propelling and steam-vessels.—J. LEE, Lincoln: Atmospheric and hydraulic engine for sailing ships and steam-boilers.—J. WILSON, John-street, Sunderland: Improvements in ventilating mines, and in combining apparatus used for such purposes.—J. S. JOSEPH, Rhosyllyn, near Wrexham, North Wales: Improvements in coke ovens, and in cooling and extinguishing coke.—J. E. MC CONNELL, Wolverhampton: Improvements in steam-boilers, and in the generation and treatment of steam.—H. P. BURT, Charlotte-row, Mansion House: Railway carriages and wagons.—H. RANSFORD, West Bromwich: Building ships and other vessels.—H. LEA, Birmingham: Changing or reversing motion.—T. HUNT, Grove: Improvements in steam-boilers or generators, and in the prevention or combustion of smoke.—J. WRIGHT, Sheffield: Reducing and rolling steel and iron wire and other forms of those metals in long lengths.—R. MUSHET, Colford: Improvements in the manufacture of steel iron and cast-steel.

RECOVERING OXIDE OF MANGANESE.—Mr. Haefley, of Kearsley, proposes to recover oxide of manganese by treating products arising from the manufacture of chlorine with lime or barytes, and in such manner that there shall be an excess of alkali earth. The substance so treated is submitted to heat, and he finds that the temperature should be above 212 deg. Fahr. The lime he subsequently extracts by an acid, and for this purpose he has another quantity of the aforesaid product from the manufacture of chlorine, which usually contains free acid. In raising manganese of commerce to high oxides he proceeds in the same manner.

PREPARED OF BLACKLEAD.—Mr. Chick, Bristol, proposes in the preparation of graphite, plumbeous, or blacklead, to grind the blacklead to a fine powder, and mix it with a small quantity of olive oil, or other fatty or oily matter. The compound is then pressed together, and after some days it is again ground, and is then ready for use.

DEBENTURES OF FIFTY POUNDS EACH, BEARING INTEREST AT FIVE PER CENT.—The DIRECTORS OF THE BRISTOL AND FOREST OF DEAN COAL COMPANY (LIMITED), under powers of the Act of Parliament, are NOW RECEIVING APPLICATIONS for DEBENTURES of FIFTY POUNDS EACH, for three, five, or seven years. Interest at 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly, with option to the tenders to convert into shares within a year. About £11,000 have been expended. The property consists of three extensive seams of coal with engines, machinery, and buildings. One of the seams has been won, and the coal is expected to be in the market in about two months. The colliery is near the port and railway station of Lydney.

Applications may be made to Mr. G. S. EBYANT, sharebroker, 2, Stephen-street; or to Mr. B. D. COLLINS, managing director, at the offices of the company, 6, Bridge Parade, Bristol, February 4, 1859.

CALEDONIAN RAILWAY COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the next HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Caledonian Railway Company will be HELD in the Merchants' Hall, Hutcheson-street, Glasgow, on WEDNESDAY, the 16th day of March, 1859, at One o'clock afternoon, in terms of the statute.

The transfer books will be closed from Thursday, the 31st of March, inclusive, until after the meeting.

By order of the Board,

THOS. SALKELD, Deputy Chairman.

ARCH. GIBSON, Sec.

Caledonian Railway Company's Offices, Glasgow, Feb. 26, 1859.

COPIAPO RAILWAY COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the QUARTERLY DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT., declared in Copiapo on 2d October last, will be PAID at the banking-house of Messrs. Williams, Deacon, and Co., on and after the 23d inst., to the holders of shares registered in England.

Notice is also given, that at a meeting of shareholders held in Copiapo, on the 1st of January last, a QUARTERLY DIVIDEND of FOUR PER CENT. was DECLARED, together with a BONUS of TEN PER CENT. on the capital, the particulars of which bonus may be obtained at the office of the Copiapo Mining Company, No. 2, New Broad-street.

By order, EDWARD J. COLE.

Copiapo Mining Company, Office of Registry and Transfer, 2, New Broad-street.

SCOTTISH AUSTRALIAN INVESTMENT COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, at the SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the proprietors of this company, held yesterday, it was resolved:

That the capital of the Scottish Australian Investment Company (Limited) be increased by an amount not exceeding £200,000, by the creation of new stock, as follows:

1. The said new stock to be issued in such lots, and at such times, as the directors for the time being may think best for the interest of the company.

2. Such stock to be called Preference Stock, and to bear a fixed rate of dividend not exceeding 5 per cent. per annum, to be paid out of the profits of the company, in preference and priority to any division of interest or dividend amongst the ordinary stockholders, and without reference to the year in which the profits may have been made.

3. The Preference Stock to be first offered to those persons who at the time of the issue thereof shall be holders of stock in the said company, in accordance with the provisions of the contract of copartnership of the company.

THE CUMBERLAND BLACKLEAD MINE COMPANY (LIMITED).

Capital £20,000, in 4000 shares of £5 each. Deposit, 10s. per share.

Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 19 and 20 Vict., cap. 47, sects. 4 and 5, 1856.

DIRECTORS.

RICHARD EALES, Esq., Exeter, Devon.

D. J. JOHNSON, Esq., Northampton-park, Highbury.

WILLIAM WATKINS, Esq., 14, Soley-terrace.

C. WORTHINGTON, Esq., Clifton-town, Brighton.

(With power to add to their number).

BANKERS.—The Bank of London.

SOLICITOR.—William Black Barnes, Esq., 15, Cannon-street West.

RESIDENT AGENT.—Capt. John Dixon, Borrowdale.

LONDON AGENT.—Mr. George Charnes, Change-alley, Cornhill.

SECRETARY.—Mr. T. Fuller.

OFFICES,—51, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

This company has been formed and registered for working the celebrated wad, or blacklead, and other minerals contained in the property. The graphite, or blacklead, technically called wad, is esteemed and known as the purest and most valuable ever discovered, and hence, during the period of its limited operations, the proprietors have been accustomed to open the mine for a few weeks in a year, during which period they realised the enormous sum of £33,625 9s., upon an outlay of £30,682 10s. 2d., leaving a profit of £207,942 18s. 10d.

The proprietors having amassed such a fortune from the returns of blacklead, and being advanced in years, the mine was closed for the last seven years. Since the decease of the principal proprietor, it has been granted to the present promoters upon favourable terms. A vein of copper and rich silver-lead has been discovered in the company's grant, which will add considerably to the value of the mine.

The mine is worked by adit levels driven into the mountain, no machinery being required. The lead, or wad, being found in a pure state, requires only to be cleaned from the outer surface, and has been sold at £3500 to £4500 per ton; the second class being used in the formation of crucibles for chemical purposes, machinery, &c., and, as expressed in an Act of Parliament, passed in the reign of George II., especially for the security of this particular mine (Borrowdale). "It is found, by experience, to be necessary in the casting of bomb-shells, shot, and cannon balls."

Inspection of the mine is invited, and parties can satisfy themselves as to the proper state and condition of the mine, and the prospect of advantage to be received from it.

Several of the directors and promoters have lately visited the mine, and from personal inspection are satisfied that Captain Dixon's opinion and views are based upon a good foundation. Their interview with the pencil manufacturers at Keswick was also very satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM DR. URE'S WORK ON CHEMISTRY, &c.

The blacklead is packed up in casks of 1 cwt. each, and deposited in the warehouses of the proprietors in London, where it is sold monthly at a price of from 35s. to 45s. per lb., equal to £3500 to £4500 per ton. The nett produce of six weeks' working has amounted to £50,000. The mountain of Borrowdale, in which the blacklead is found, is 2000 feet high, and the entrance to the mine is 1000 ft. only below its summit.—Dr. Ure.

Borrowdale, or Chapeley, is in the parish of Crosswhite, Cumberland, seven miles south-west of Keswick. This Chapeley is celebrated for the production of the finest plumbago, or blacklead, in the world. This mineral principally is called wad, embedded in grey felspar porphyry.—Gazetteer of the World.

E P O R T S.

Greta Bridge Pencil Works, Keswick, Jan. 29, 1859.—I went up to the mine, as promised, on Thursday last, and gave Capt. Dixon to understand what was required in his report for your use. You have the substance, and perhaps a little rearrangement would be of service, without altering the facts. On reference to the plans you will be the better able to do this. He had written explaining why the mine closed. The facts were these: —Mr. Banks, having better half of the mine as owner, and holding about one-half the working shares, did not care to advance any more money after getting Robson's level to its present position, as there was a probability then, as now, of their coming on a valuable sop of wad daily; so he doubtless saw it his interest to discontinue after driving Robson's level to a certain point, their lease expiring some two or three years from the time it ceased to be worked. If any further information will be of service to you I shall be happy to render all in my power.

ROBERT WILSON.

Wad Mines, Jan. 28, 1859.—Being convinced, as I am, of the great probability of there being many sops or bodies of wad yet undiscovered, I therefore submit the following propositions to your notice: and, first, I shall begin with Robson's stage, as being the lowest or nearest to the level of the bottom of the valley. Robson's level being 220 fms. driven in the Rake vein from the entrance to the forefield. At about 100 yards from the entrance there is a cross vein, which intersects the Rake vein at right angles, and will also intersect Hampson's vein on the right, at about 10 or 12 fms. from Robson's level, where, in all probability, there may be a sop of wad. Hampson's passes through Grand and Dixon's pipes. At about 125 fms. from entrance there is a vein passing obliquely to the left of Stake vein, which, by driving in about 5 fms, will intersect a wady vein, which appears in Robson's level of about 175 fms. At 200 fms. we come to Jack's cross-cut, where we cut through a very hard rock or greywacke, to the range of Grand Pipe; but, in my opinion, it was not sufficiently explored to determine whether there may be a chance of meeting with a sop of wad or not. I now come to the consideration of Hastings' Pipe, of which I have always expressed a favourable opinion of there being a sop or sops of wad in the course of this Pipe, which was discovered on Gilbert's stage, where were strong indications of wad, which increased in appearance as we sunk down, and which is now down about 17 fms., where we cut a large feeder of water, which impeded the progress of working so much that it was given up in despair; but when Jack's cross-cut was cut on Robson's level we cut the same feeder of water, which drained in a great measure the upper part of Hastings' Pipe, and which can now be prosecuted with advantage, both by sinking and raising, and I hope will lead to the discovery of a valuable sop of wad, besides ventilating the lower part of the mine.* I also recommend that a further prosecution of the Rake vein should be proceeded with, until it intersects all the cross veins that are known, and where it is that all our hopes lie for the discovery of wad, and such is what constitutes a pipe. Robson's level is about 220 fms. The next consideration is Gilbert's stage, which is 115 fms. in length, and elevated above Robson's stage 45 fms. perpendicular. This stage was commenced in 1794, and finished in 1809, with the intention of making a communication with the Grand Pipe, which is 47 fms. perpendicular, from the surface, where wad was first discovered, and for draining and ventilating, and the further prosecution of trials, which was attended with great success. I also recommend that a further search be made into the course of Winkles and Williams' pipes from Gil's stage; these pipes produced a little more than 220 cwt., and are well worth a further trial. The trial now going on at Old Men's stage I recommended in my report of Nov. 3 last, and that also on Gil's stage at the same time, which I consider of the greatest importance. There is a vein bearing about north and south at about the distance of 200 yards from Gil's stage, in which no trial has ever been made, and where some small pieces of wad have been found lying upon the surface of the vein, which induces me to think there is a sop of wad which may turn up to be of the greatest importance; the vein is most promising, and I recommend a trial here most confidently. At the time the mine ceased to be worked Mr. Banks had declined to work with the existing company, the lease being near its termination, and no renewal of the lease being granted; hence it fell into the proprietors' hands. The subsequent decrease of the proprietors has increased the delay of again opening it.

JOHN DIXON.

Applications for shares to be made to the directors in the following form:—

To the Directors of Allotment of the 2400 Shares for Issue.

GENTLEMEN.—I request you will allot me of the £5 shares in this company, and herewith enclose you £, being the amount of 10s. per share deposit. I also undertake to pay the amount of calls that may be made thereon, in accordance with the provisions of the company's Act of Incorporation.

Signature _____ Address _____

CONDITIONS.

That the deposit of 10s. per share shall be paid upon the number of shares applied for, to the credit of the directors, who bind themselves to allot the shares to the first applicants; but should the number of such exceed the number to be disposed of—viz., 2400 shares, such deposits will be returned forthwith.

Any person will be at liberty to pay up in full the amount of £5 per share, and be allowed 6 per cent. discount thereon.

Prospectus and every information afforded at the office of the company, 51, Threadneedle-street, London.

By order of the Board, THOMAS FULLER, Sec.

* The distance from the forefield of German's vein in Jack's cross-cut to intersect Hastings' Pipe will be about 8 fms.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

MR. WHEATLEY KIRK respectfully announces that he is honoured with instructions to arrange catalogue, and SELL BY AUCTION, during next month, the whole of the exceedingly valuable MACHINERY for PREPARING and SPINNING FLAX and TOW, in the mills called MELL MILLS, DROGHEDA, IRELAND.—Further particulars in future papers and catalogues, or at the offices of the auctioneer, 4, Kirkgate, Leeds, or Cross-street Chambers, Cross-street, Manchester.

MOST EXCELLENT LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, in thorough repair, cylinder 4½ in., stroke 22 in., nearly new, brass tubes, wheels 5 ft., by Sharp & Co., Manchester.—Apply to MR. WHEATLEY KIRK, Cross-street Chambers, Manchester.

STEAM ENGINES.—IMPORTANT TO MINERS, MANUFACTURERS, CONTRACTORS, EXPORTERS, AND OTHERS.

MESSRS. PAGE AND CAMERON, 64, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C., beg to inform exporters, manufacturers, and others requiring steam power, that they have OPENED a WAREHOUSE in the CITY, where they will always endeavour to KEEP in STOCK a LARGE ASSORTMENT of NEW HIGH-PRESSURE and CONDENSING HORIZONTAL, VERTICAL, and BEAM ENGINES, for MANUFACTURING and MINING PURPOSES. Also, HORIZONTAL and BEAM BLAST ENGINES, for IRON SMELTERS, &c.

They have at present FOR SALE, at very LOW PRICES, the following HORIZONTAL STEAM-ENGINES, to which they respectfully invite attention and inspection, viz.:—A 30 horse power, 20 in. cylinder and 5 ft. stroke, with balance valve. Two of 15 horse power, 24 in. cylinder, and 2 ft. stroke. One of 11 horse power, 12 in. cylinder, and 5 ft. stroke. Two of 40 horse power, 24 in. cylinder, and 4 ft. stroke. Two of 30 horse power, 20 in. cylinder, and 3 ft. stroke, all with balance valves, and several of 22, 20, 16, and 12 horse power.

The whole of the engines are fitted with massive foundation plates, are of a good, plain, and substantial build, and are peculiarly adapted for exportation.

Being manufactured in sets and large quantities, Messrs. PAGE and CAMERON feel assured that they can successfully compete with London or provincial manufacturers.

London, February 26, 1859.

STEAM BOILER ASSURANCE COMPANY, MARKET STREET, MANCHESTER.

Registered pursuant to Act 7 and 8 Vict., cap. 110. Capital £250,000, with power to increase to £100,000, in shares of £10 each.

TRUSTEES.

THOMAS BAZLEY, Esq., M.P., Manchester.

J. ASPINALL TURNER, Esq., M.P., Manchester.

W. CUNLIFFE BROOKS, Esq., Banker, Manchester.

DIRECTORS.

BENJAMIN FOTHERGILL, Esq., Market-street, Manchester, Chairman.

WILLIAM MCNAUGHT, Esq., Royal Exchange, Manchester.

JAMES LEEMING, Esq., Water-street, Manchester.

CHARLES J. GALLOWAY, Esq., Knot Mill, Manchester.

JOHN HAWORTH, Esq., Thorncroft, Old Trafford.

BANKERS.—MESSRS. CUNLIFFE BROOKS, Esq., Manchester.

SOLICITORS.—MESSRS. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester.

AUDITORS.—MESSRS. Child, Fitzgerald, and Taylor, 65, King-street, Manchester; Mr. C. H. Minchin, 59, King-street, Manchester.

CHIEF ENGINEER.—R. B. Longridge.

SECRETARY.—Jonathan Cox.

This company has been established to supply a recognised want existing in an important section of the mercantile community, by applying the principles of insurance, combined with efficient inspection, to steam boilers.

The numerous explosions of steam boilers that have taken place during the last four years have proved the necessity of scientific supervision, which, if not voluntarily adopted by the employers of steam power, will doubtless be eventually forced upon them by Government interference.

It being evidently the interest of the company to prevent accidents to the boilers insured by them, they have been careful to select the highest engineering talent, and such as is known to be specially valuable in this particular department of the profession.

Should such accidents, however, unfortunately occur, the insured will not suffer pecuniary loss in addition to other inconvenience.

The company appeal confidently for the support of all employers of steam boilers, not only on the ground of the wisdom and prudence that induce the careful manufacture and inspection of their property.

The company insure boilers of every description, and also any damage arising to buildings and property from their explosion, exclusive, however, of fire risks and destructive acts.

They also insure the lives of workmen and others to a limited amount per head.

Where boilers sustain injury from accidental causes, though explosions may result, the damage will be made good, or the amount thereof paid by the company according to valuation.

The owners of boilers who may not wish to insure for their full value, are at liberty to take policies for not less than £100 on each separate boiler, thus securing inspection and an assurance of £100 on each boiler, at a premium varying from 15s. upwards.

A "Registration of Steam Boilers" has also been established, the principle adopted at Lloyd's in the case of ships. New boilers are examined and tested by the officers of the company, previous to leaving the works of the makers, and certificates issued according to their classification.

The inspectors will, if required, indicate the engines of the insured, and advice will be given by the chief engineer of the company in all matters relating to the economical use of steam-power.

TABLE OF PREMIUMS FOR BOILERS.

Premium per square inch to which safety-valves are loaded.

| Class. | Above | ... Lbs. — | 20 | 40 | 60 | Per cent. per annum. |
|--------|---------------|------------|----|----|----|----------------------|
| | Not exceeding | 20 | 40 | 60 | — | |

The Tavistock Ironworks.

GILL AND CO.'S PRICE LIST OF MINING MATERIALS.

| FEBRUARY, 1859. | |
|--|----------------|
| CAST IRON. | Per cwt. |
| Girders, troughs, saddles, &c. | 8s. |
| in green sand | 8s. |
| Ditto ditto, turned or fitted | 11s. |
| Centre pieces | 10s. |
| Ditto bored | 13s. |
| Spar wheels and segments | 10s. |
| Ditto under 1 cwt. | 10s. |
| Ditto ditto bored | 12s. |
| Bevel wheels and segments | 10s. |
| Ditto under 1 cwt. | 11s. |
| Ditto ditto bored, extra | 2s. |
| Crank in green sand | 8s. |
| Ditto in dry sand | 10s. |
| Ditto ditto bored, extra | 6s. 13s. |
| Hot water cisterns | 10s. |
| Mangle branches and doors | 10s. |
| Ditto faced | 13s. |
| Fire bars, &c., cast close | 9s. |
| Damper and frames ditto | 9s. |
| Pump pumps for one | 8s. |
| Ditto for more | 7s. 6d. |
| Ditto short lengths | 8s. |
| Hornig working barrels, 6s per in. | 10s. |
| Turning plunger poles, 6s. 6d. p. in. | 10s. |
| Grate plates, cast close | 8s. |
| Coupling boxes | 8s. |
| Brackets | 8s. |
| Rollers for flat rods | 9s. |
| Engine castings generally, according to specification. | 8s. |
| WROUGHT IRON. | |
| Steamed miners' shovels, ungrouned | 4s. |
| Ditto steamed, ground | 5s. |
| Valve iron | 15s.-16s. |
| Hammered iron from best secured | 14s. |
| scraps | 14s. |
| Ditto double | 16s. |
| Kibble plates, hammered | 15s. |
| Pick moulds | 14s. |
| Rolled iron | 14s. |
| BRASS. | Per lb. |
| Bearing and bucket brasses | 1s. 2d. |
| Valves, seats, and clacks | 9s. |
| Clack seat plates and doors | 9s. |
| Plunger poles, 8 in. diameter and above | 20s. |
| Ditto under 8 in. | 22s. |
| Stuffing boxes and glands | 17s. |
| Large bushings | 2s. & upwards. |
| Worm shives | 8s. |
| Capstan shives | 8s. |
| For castings requiring new patterns, an additional charge to cover the cost thereof will be made. The company have a vast number of old patterns in store, for which no charge will be made. | |
| Discount for cash payments within one month from date of invoice, 3 per cent. | |
| £3 per ton given for good scrap iron, delivered at the works. | |

GILL AND CO. are instructed to offer FOR SALE a new 30 inch STEAM ENGINE and other MACHINERY, made by them, and to be seen at their works, of the following description, and which the owners are prepared to sell at a considerable sacrifice. Terms, &c., can be known on application:—A new 30 in. cylinder DOUBLE ACTING CONDENSING BEAM ENGINE, 9 ft. stroke, 4 ft. crank, of the best construction, with a 22 ft. diameter fly-wheel, wrought-iron fly-wheel shaft, with plates for cage for winding, and a pumping crank, with a 10 tons boiler, having a tube through it, with the usual outfit complete. N.B.—A choice can be made either of a boiler whole, or one in five parts.

Also, a powerful CRUSHING MACHINE, having rolls, 30 in. diameter and 15 in. wide, with very strong frames. Tavistock is four miles from a shipping port.

Dated Ironworks, Tavistock, February 23, 1859.

CARMARTHENSHIRE, SOUTH WALES.

T LET, the COAL, IRONSTONE, and FIRE-CLAY, under lands in the GWENDRAETH VALLEY, SOUTH WALES, belonging to Lieut.-Colonel S. Cowell Stepney, consisting of SEVENTEEN SEAMS OF COAL, varying in thickness from 2 to 9 ft.; numerous SEAMS OF IRONSTONE, with ONE SEAM OF BLACKBAND, about 16 in. thick.

The Gwendraeth Canal passes through the property, and leads to the South Wales Railway, as well as to the ports of Kidwelly and Pembrey, the latter port being about eight miles distant, and having a floating dock capable of accommodating vessels of 500 tons and upwards.—For further particulars and to treat, apply to CHARLES BERKELEY, Esq., solicitor, 52, Lincoln's Inn-fields, London; or to WILLIAM ROSSER, Esq., mining engineer, Llanelli, South Wales.

VALUABLE CANNEL AND COAL MINES, NEAR CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE.—TO BE LET, the UNDERMENTIONED MINES OF CANNEL AND COAL, viz.—

The CANNEL MINE.

The KING COAL.

The YARD MINE.

The BONE COAL.

The SMITHS' COAL; and

The ARLEY MINE.

Situated at Duxbury Park, near Chorley, in the county of Lancaster, containing upwards of 200 acres. These mines, having all been proved by shafts, and partially worked in other parts of the estate, are well worth the attention of any party who may be desirous of establishing a large colliery by means of a small outlay of capital.

The quality of the coal seams is excellent, the first in order, and very near the surface, being the well-known and justly celebrated Wigan Cannel, for which there is a great demand, at a high price, for gas purposes. The other seams combine all the qualities requisite for steam, house, iron, and coking purposes.

The property is well situated for easy and convenient transit for the coal, being intersected by the Lancaster Canal and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, and within one mile of the London and North-Western Railway.

In addition to the present available outlets, the projected public line of railway from Blackburn to Wigan is designed to pass within 150 yards of the site most eligible for the sinking of shafts. The colliery will thus have convenient access to the ports of Liverpool, Fleetwood, &c., as well as to Manchester, Preston, Blackburn, Bolton, and other large manufacturing towns.

To treat for the above, application may be made to Mr. JOHN RAWES, agent, Duxbury Park; Mr. GEO. GILKIN, mining engineer, Wigan; or to A. C. HOWDEN, Esq., 3, Loftusbury, London, E.C.

VALUABLE STEAM COLLERY FOR SALE.—

The LESSEES of one of the most promising STEAM COLLERIES in South WALES, surface 600 acres, containing six distinct seams of coal, are PREPARED TO DISPOSE OF THEIR INTEREST IN THE LEASE, PLANT, live and dead stock, &c., on very easy terms to really influential parties, with a view to the formation of a joint-stock company, with an ample capital, and for which every facility will be given. Free shares in the new company would be for a very large portion of the consideration, and the balance may be paid in annuities spread over 10 or 12 years to come.

Upwards of £45,000 have been expended in opening out and carrying on the works to the extent of the present yield of 300 tons a day, with a progressive increase. The coal is advantageously known in the markets of Southern Europe, is classed in the lists of the Admiralty, the Government of India, and the Imperial French Marine, and is already extensively in use for locomotive engines on the railways in France.—Address, appointing an interview, J. D. BARRY, Esq., 45, Thurloe-square, Brompton, S.W.

WELSH STEAM COALS.—The ABERCARN COLLERY COMPANY are now PREPARED TO SUPPLY STEAM NAVIGATION and RAILWAY COMPANIES, MERCHANTS, and MANUFACTURERS with their new DEEP BLACK VEIN STEAM COAL. This magnificent coal combines all the requisites of a first-class steam coal, it possesses high evaporative power, entire freedom from sulphur and clinker, while its large size, hardness, and resistance to the action of the weather, peculiarly adapt it for the tropics or distant voyages, where it has to undergo much rough usage.—For price and terms, apply to the ABERCARN COLLERY COMPANY, export, Monmouthshire.

LEAD FOR EXPORTATION.—PIG-LEAD (hard and soft) SOLD AT LOW RATES. The BEST PRICE given for LEAD ASHES, &c., and OLD LEAD.—ROUPEL and Co., Southwark Lead Works, Gravel-lane, London.

ENGINEERS' TOOLS.—FOR SALE, a SELF-ACTING SLIDE LATHE, 11 in. centre and bed 12 ft. long, complete. And TWO PORTABLE PUNCHING and CUTTING MACHINES, one suitable for 1½ in. plates, and the other for ¾ in. plates, both adapted for steam or hand power.—Apply to Messrs. PAGE and CAMERON, auctioneers and valuers, 61, Old Broad-street, E.C.

STEAM ENGINES.—FOR SALE, a superior HIGH-PRESSURE HORIZONTAL STEAM ENGINE, of 6 horse power, 8 in. cylinder, and 1 ft. 6 in. stroke. ONE of 8 horse power, 10 in. cylinder, and 1 ft. 6 in. stroke. ONE of 10 horse power, 12 in. cylinder, and 2 ft. stroke. TWO of 14 horse power, 14 in. cylinder, and 2 ft. stroke. And ONE of 30 horse power, 20 in. cylinder, and 3 ft. stroke.—Apply to Messrs. PAGE and CAMERON, 64, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

STEAM ENGINE FOR SALE.—A 24 inch ROTARY CONDENSING HORIZONTAL STEAM ENGINE FOR SALE, 6 ft. stroke in cylinder, heavy fly-wheel, drawing machine attached, and connection for pumping, with a 9 ton Cornish boiler the whole in good condition.—Particulars may be had by applying to Messrs. NICHOLLS, WILLIAMS, and Co., Engineers, Tavistock.

Messrs. NICHOLLS, WILLIAMS, and Co. have always a good supply of SECOND-HAND MINE MATERIALS FOR SALE. Orders executed for new machinery and materials at the shortest notice, and of best quality. Machinery sent to all parts of the world, and able engineers to erect it.

BRICKS.—Messrs. OATES AND INGRAM inform brick makers on an extensive scale that their PATENT SOLID BRICK MACHINE is now THOROUGHLY AND EFFICIENTLY TESTED, and are prepared to OFFER THE FOLLOWING to the trade, in districts, either by ROYALTY or PURCHASE:—Mid-ssex, Surrey, Sussex, Essex, Kent, Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge, Oxford, Gloucester, Hereford, Berks, Bucks, Huntingdon, Devon, Cornwall, Dorset, Wilts, Hants, and Isle of Wight.

With this PATENT MACHINE the ordinary surface clay requires no preparation whatever, whilst that of a rocky nature has merely to be passed through rollers in the usual way, and thence, WITHOUT ANY TEMPERING, INTO THE MACHINE, FROM WHICH THE BRICKS ARE REMOVED DIRECT TO THE KILN IN A STATE READY FOR BURNING.

The MACHINE is now making UPWARDS OF THIRTY BRICKS PER MINUTE at the works of Messrs. KING and PARRY, Government contractors, Fort Elson, near Gosport; and also at the Patent Solid Brick Works of T. WELLS INGRAM, Oldbury, near Birmingham.

Application for orders to see the machine in operation to be made to Messrs. OATES and INGRAM, Bradford-street, Birmingham. Samples of clay may be sent and passed through the machine, and the bricks burnt, or a sample brick will be sent to any party wishing to see one.

PRACTICAL MECHANICS' JOURNAL.—Part 132 (for March, 1859, price 1s.) illustrated with a beautifully-finished copperplate Engraving (folio size) of Marshall's Inverted Double Cylinder Expansive Marine Engines, and 30 Wood Engravings.—Original Articles on Marshall's Engines; new system of Veneering; History of Sewing Machinery; Silver Goblets; Jacquard's Lamps; Central School of Art; Mechanical Notes from America; American Improvements in Locomotive Engines; Recent Patents; Hayward, Paper; Manning, Manure; Hoop, Pipe Couplings; Glass, Foot Warmer; Jenkins, Furnaces; Henderson, Weaving; Bond, Churning; Rigs, Coal Tipping.—Law Reports of Patent Cases; Nairne v. Clayton et al.; Walker v. Purcell; Fire Annihilator Company v. Phillips; Colline Company v. Walker. Reviews of New Books, Correspondence, Scientific Societies, Monthly Notes on Scientific Matters, Marine Memoranda, Lists of Recent Patents and Designs Registered, Notices, Index of Vol. III, &c., London: Longmans' Paternoster-row; Editors Offices (Offices for Patents), 47 Lincoln's Inn-fields.

THE TAVISTOCK IRONWORKS.

FEBRUARY, 1859.

THE TAVISTOCK IRONWORKS.

FEBRUARY, 185

THE MINING SHARE LIST.

DIVIDEND MINES.

| Shares. | Mines | Paid. | Nom. Pr. | Business. | Dividends Per Share. | Last Paid. |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 5120 Alfred Consols (cop.), Phillack [S.E.] | 2 11 10. | 74. | 6 1/2 | .. | 20 0 6.. 0 2 6—Feb. | 1858 |
| 10000 Bampyde (copper), Devon | 0 12 6. | 4 | .. | .. | 0 7 5/6 0 0 2 6—May, | 1858 |
| 4000 Bedford United (copper), Tavistock | 2 5 8. | 74. | 74 | 74 | 10 8 6.. 0 3 6—Dec. | 1858 |
| 240 Boscan (tin), St. Just | 20 10 0. | 60 | .. | 23 0 0.. 1 0 0—Nov. | 1858 | |
| 200 Botallack (gm., copper), St. Just* | 91 5 0. | 180 | .. | 453 5 0.. 2 10 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 1000 Corn Bros (copper, tin), Illogan | 15 0 0. | 75 | 70 72 1/2 | 245 10 0.. 2 0 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 200 Cefn Cwrs Brynco (lead), Cardigansh. | 33 0 0. | 37 | .. | 5 0 0.. 2 0 0—Mar. | 1858 | |
| 12000 Copper Miners of England | 25 0 0. | 25 | .. | 75/4 per cent. — Half-yrly. | 1858 | |
| 35000 Futto ditto | 100 0 0. | 25 | 24 25 | 1 per cent. — Half-yrly. | 1858 | |
| 1055 Crofton Moor (copper), St. Cleer* | 8 0 0. | 30 | 29 31 | 2 9 0.. 0 5 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 867 Cwm Erdin (lead) Cardigansh. | 7 10 0. | 14 | .. | 0 10 0.. 0 10 0—Nov. | 1858 | |
| 129 Cwmyntwith (lead), Cardigansh. | 60 0 0. | 300 | .. | 145 0 0.. 5 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 4076 Devon and Cornwall (copper) | 4 6 3. | 13 1/2 | .. | 0 10 0.. 0 2 6—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 1024 Devon Gl. Co. (cop.), Tavist.* [S.E.] | 1 0 0. | 475 | 465 475 | 646 0 0.. 7 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 356 Dolcoath (copper, tin), Camborne* | 128 17 6. | 300 | .. | 492 10 0.. 7 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 300 East Daren (lead), Cardigansh. | 32 0 0. | 110 | .. | 54 0 0.. 3 0 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 128 East Pool (tin, copper), Pool, Illogan | 24 5 0. | 175 | .. | 305 0 0.. 2 10 0—Aug. | 1858 | |
| 7700 Exmouth (silver-lead), Christow. | 14 0 0. | 8 | .. | 3 15 0.. 0 2 6—Feb. | 1858 | |
| 1400 Eyam Mining Co. (lead), Derbyshire | 5 0 0. | 38 | .. | 18 13 4.. 1 0 0—Aug. | 1858 | |
| 2560 Foxdale, Isle of Man, Limited (lead)* | 25 0 0. | 42 | .. | 59 8 3.. 1 0 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 486 Grambler and St. Aubyn (cop.), S.E.] | 54 15 0. | 95 | 90 92 1/2 | 18 10 0.. 1 10 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 6000 Great South Tolpu (S.E.), Redruth* | 14 6 4. | 13 | .. | 3 14 6.. 0 7 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 1024 Herdieshot (lead), near Liskeard | 8 10 0. | 83. | 83 83 1/2 | 5 0 0.. 0 12 6—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 160 Levant (copper, tin), St. Just* | 2 10 0. | 100 | .. | 1081 0 0.. 5 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 400 Lisgar (lead), Cardigansh., Wales* | 15 15 0. | 100 | .. | 317 10 0.. 2 8 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 5000 Mendip Hills (lead), Somerset | 3 15 0. | 14 | .. | 1 13 6.. 0 6 0—May. | 1858 | |
| 1800 Miner's Mining Co., Lim. (ld), Wrexham | 25 0 0. | 115 | .. | 38 2 6.. 2 10 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 20000 Minia Co. of Ireland (cop., lead, coal) | 7 0 0. | 13 1/2 | .. | 14 3 2.. 0 9 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 470 Newtownards Mining Co., Co. Down | 50 0 0. | 35 | .. | 55 0 0.. 1 0 0—July. | 1858 | |
| 6000 N.W. Bassett (cop., tin), Illogan [S.E.] | nil. | 7. | 6 6 1/2 | 14 12 0.. 0 5 0—Aug. | 1858 | |
| 6499 Par Consols (cop.), St. Blazey [S.E.] | 1 2 6. | 16 1/2 16 1/2 | 17 | 32 15 0.. 0 10 0—Oct. | 1858 | |
| 200 Phoenix (copper, tin), Linkinhorne | 100 0 0. | 420 | .. | 294 10 0.. 25 0—Nov. | 1858 | |
| 1772 Polberro (tin), St. Agnes (Preference) | — | — | — | 1 7 0.. 0 7 0—Sept. | 1859 | |
| 560 Providence (tin), Uny Lelant [S.E.] | 20 12 2. | 73 | 73 75 | 84 14 6.. 5 10 0—Aug. | 1859 | |
| 2500 Rhosydol and Bacheddon (lead)* | 11 5 0. | 12 | .. | 0 16 0.. 0 3 0—July. | 1858 | |
| 15000 Rhenardus Colliery Company, Limited | 0 5 0. | 34. | .. | 0 1 10 0.. 1 0 0—Aug. | 1858 | |
| 256 South Caradon (cop.), St. Cleer* [S.E.] | 2 10 0. | 450 | 440 450 | 556 0 0.. 0 10 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 256 South Garrison (lead), Illogan | — | — | — | 0 4 0.. 0 10 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 612 South Tolpu (cop.), Redruth, Cornwall* | 8 0 0. | 77 1/2 | 72 1/2 75 | 81 10 0.. 2 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 496 South Wheal Frances, Illogan [S.E.] | 18 12 9. | 230 | 217 222 | 315 5 0.. 5 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 476 St. Ives Consols (tin), St. Ives* | 16 0 0. | 70 | .. | 926 0 0.. 6 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 4000 Tincroft (cop., tin), Pool, Illogan [S.E.] | 9 0 0. | 45 4 4 4 | .. | 9 3 6.. 0 5 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 4900 United Mines (copper), Gwennap | 40 0 0. | 120 | 120 | 64 5 0.. 3 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 512 Wendron Consols (tin), Wendron | 23 7 2. | 42 1/2 | 37 1/2 42 1/2 | 4 0 0.. 1 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 6000 West Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.] | 10 10 0. | 21 | 21 22 | 15 3 0.. 0 9 0—Nov. | 1858 | |
| 512 West Caradon (cop.), Liskeard [S.E.] | 10 0 0. | 67 | 67 68 | 145 0 0.. 1 10 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 6499 West Fowey Consols (tin and copper) | 7 10 0. | 71/2 | .. | 0 2 6.. 0 2 6—Mar. | 1858 | |
| 4000 West Wheal Seton (cop.), Camorne* | 18 10 0. | 323 1/2 | 330 | 153 0 0.. 7 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 2400 Wheel Ball (tin), St. Just | 15 0 0. | 18 | .. | 4 0 0.. 0 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 512 Wheel Bassett (copper), Illogan [S.E.] | 5 9 6. | 230 | 217 220 | 513 10 0.. 6 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 256 Wheel Buller (cop.), Wendron | 5 0 0. | 120 | 115 120 | 898 0 0.. 3 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 12000 Wheel Charlotte, Perranuthnoe | 1 0 8. | 4 1/2 | 3 3 1/2 | 0 8 0.. 0 2 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 128 Wheel Friendship (cop.), Devon | 50 0 0. | 90 | .. | 2385 10 0.. 10 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 1024 Wheel Grylls (tin), Perranuthnoe | 0 4 0. | 6 | 7 | 0 7 0.. 0 5 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 448 Wh. Margaret (tin), Uny Leu [S.E.] | 19 15 0. | 86 | 95 100 x 1. | 100 10 0.. 7 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 5000 Wheat Mary (tin), Lelant | 7 4 6. | .. | 51 13 0.. 0 2 0—Feb. | 1859 | | |
| 1024 Wh. Mary Ann (id.), Menheniot [S.E.] | 8 0 0. | 48 | 47 1/2 48 | 40 17 6.. 2 5 0—Dec. | 1858 | |
| 80 Wheat Owles, St. Just, Cornwall | 70 0 0. | 300 | .. | 250 13 0.. 5 0 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 198 Wheat Seton (tin, copper), Camborne | 107 0 0. | 130 | .. | 289 0 0.. 2 10 0—Feb. | 1859 | |
| 1040 Wh. Trelawny (sl.-id.), Liskeard [S.E.] | 4 10 0. | 32 1/2 | 30 32 | 36 10 0.. 1 0 0—Jan. | 1859 | |
| 5000 Wicklow (copper), Wicklow | 5 0 0. | 42 | .. | 31 15 6.. 1 10 0—Jan. | 1859 | |

MINES WITH DIVIDENDS IN ABEYANCE.

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| 1624 Balleswidden (tin), St. Just | — | 11 5 0. | 5 | 5 0—Jan. | 1854 |
| 1200 Brightside & Frogatt Grove, Derbysh. | 3 0 0. | 51/2 | .. | 12 5 0.. 0 5 0—Jan. | 1854 |
| 100 Bryndford Hall (lead), Flintshire | 25 0 0. | 60 | .. | 13 0 0.. 5 0 0—July. | 1856 |
| 2040 Bryntyll, Llandaffo, Montgomeryshire | 4 2 6. | 11. | 53 5 5% | 0 2 6.. 0 2 6—July. | 1856 |
| 3900 Bullock Consols (tin), Perran | 2 2 6. | 15 | .. | 0 10 0.. 0 10 0—Mar. | 1857 |
| 4096 Bwlch (silver-lead), Cardigansh. | 3 9 0. | 11/2 | .. | 0 2 6.. 0 2 6—Dec. | 1857 |
| 4096 Calstock Consols (copper) | 5 0 0. | 4 1/2 | 4 4 1/2 | 0 2 6.. 0 2 6—Dec. | 1857 |
| 2048 Carnyac (tin), St. Just | 4 15 0. | 4 1/2 | .. | 0 15 0.. 0 3 0—June. | 1858 |
| 2000 Collacombe (copper), Lamerton | 5 0 0. | 13 | .. | 3 5 0.. 0 8 0—Dec. | 1858 |
| 256 Condurrow (cop., tin), Camborne | 20 0 0. | 80 | .. | 85 0 0.. 2 0 0—June. | 1858 |
| 280 Dernert Mines (sl.-lead), Durham | 300 0 0. | 150 | .. | 122 0.. 0 10 0—June. | 1858 |
| 672 Ding Dong (tin), Gilval | 35 5 0. | 11. | 12 1/2 13 | 16 7 6.. 1 10 1—Mar. | 1857 |
| 12000 Drake Walls (tin, copper), Calstock | 2 1 0. | 15. | 15 1/2 15 | 0 13 6.. 0 2 0—Sept. | 1857 |
| 2048 East Falmouth (copper), Gwennap | 2 0 0. | 8 1/2 | .. | 0 7 6.. 0 2 6—Jan. | 1858 |
| 1024 East Wheal Margaret (tin, copper) | 7 17 6. | 21/2 | 31/2 4 | 0 5 0.. 0 5 0—Jan. | 1858 |
| 4940 Fowey Consols (copper), Tywardreath | 4 0 0. | 3 1/2 | .. | 41 4 3.. 0 6 0—Feb. | 1858 |
| 4448 General Mining Co. for Ire., cop., id.) | 4 0 0. | 3 1/2 | .. | 1 0 8.. 0 3 3—June. | 1852 |
| 2000 Goginan (silver-lead), Cardigansh. | 12 5 0. | 21/2 | .. | 22 0 0.. 0 5 0—Sept. | 1858 |
| 1024 Great Nomena (copper), St. Cleer | 14 5 0. | 6 1/2 | .. | 0 7 6.. 0 7 6—Dec. | 1858 |
| 119 Great Work (tin), Germoe | 100 0 0. | 110 | .. | 221 10 0.. 7 10 0—Feb. | 1857 |
| 6000 Hington Down Cons., Calstock | 3 16 0. | 4 1/2 | 4 4 1/2 | 2 16 0.. 0 2 6—Nov. | 1858 |
| 2000 Holycross (copper), near Tipperary | 11 0 0. | 8 1/2 | .. | 4 2 6.. 0 5 0—Jan. | 1858 |
| 29 Laxey Mining Company, Isle of Man | 100 0 0. | 1000 | .. | 1420 0 0.. 50 0—June. | 1858 |
| 5000 Lewis Mines (tin, copper), St. Erth | 6 9 11. | 24 | .. | 0 10 0.. 0 10 0—Dec. | 1858 |
| 8000 Marks Valley (copper), Cadarnion | 4 10 16. | 21/2 | .. | 0 5 6.. 0 3 0—Sept. | 1858 |
| 5000 Merlin (lead), Flint | 3 4 6. | 15 | .. | 1 11 0.. 0 2 6—June. | 1858 |
| 5000 Nanteos & Penrhys Lim. (42 1/2 sha.) | 2 5 0. | 11/2 | .. | 0 1 6.. 0 1 6—April. | 1858 |
| 20 North Pool (tin, copper), Pool | 40 18 0. | 51/2 | .. | 324 0 0.. 2 0 0—Dec. | 1858 |
| 700 North Roskær (copper), Camborne | 13 0 0. | 26 | 29 31 | 750 0 0.. 4 0 0—Sept. | 1858 |
| 512 Rosewarne United (cop.), Gwennap | 70 0 0. | 70 | 62 1/2 65 | 32 10 0.. 1 10 0—Jan. | 1858 |
| 12000 Sortridge Con., cop., Whitbread, Tavistock [S.E.] | 0 6 0. | 128.. 15 1/2 17 1/2 | .. | 0 10 0.. 0 2 6—July. | 1858 |
| 123 South Crimlins (copper), St. Austell | 19 0 0. | 285 | ..</td |